

## THE TIMES Tomorrow

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Part Two of Norman Macrae's visions of the future  
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England's manager Bobby Robson announces the new season's football squad

## Portfolio

### Three share £60,000

There were three timely winners of the £60,000 Portfolio dividend on Saturday. Each said he or she had a particular need for a share in the dividend, which had accumulated after two weeks of non-winners.

Mr John Langford, of Old Canley, Doncaster, is 48 today so the money will be a birthday present; Ms Carmen Izzary, aged 44, of Muswell Hill, London has been on the dole for 23 months; and the third winner, Mrs Louise Leigh, a portrait artist, aged 55, of Bushey, Herts, will use her money to help her two children who have just finished full-time education.

For Ms Izzary, the £20,000 share was a particular joy. As an editor and translator of Spanish, she needed some capital to pay for a trip to the Frankfurt Book Fair, where she hopes to get work. "Buying The Times every day has been my one luxury during unemployment. I have had to invest 20p a day because even the copy in the library gets stolen by other Portfolio hopefuls."

Eight people shared the £4,000 daily prize, accumulated over two days. They are: Mr J S Taylor, of Northwood, Middx; Mr Max Watts, of Bedford; Mr Douglas Chard, of Delabole, Cornwall; Mr P S Thompson, of Camberley; Mrs Christine Manning, of Hampstead, London; Mr D Specter, of Hove; Mr T Moffat, of London, W10; and Mr M R Bower, of London, SW11.

## Sikh's punish President

The World Sikh Convention excommunicated President Zail Singh of India for ordering troops into the sacred Golden Temple complex during unrest in June. A Cabinet minister was also excommunicated during the generally peaceful meeting.

## Health rebate

People who take out private health insurance should receive a £50 government rebate, but those who go into health service hospitals should pay a similar sum for their accommodation, a report says.

## Gang battle

Seven people, including a girl aged 14, were shot dead and 20 wounded in a battle between two motor cycle gangs in a suburb of Sydney.

## Pavarotti out

Luciano Pavarotti has cancelled his appearance at the opening night of the 1984 San Francisco Opera season, because of the serious illness of his daughter Giuliana, aged 17.

## Poly 'snobbery'

Employers treat polytechnic graduates as "second best", and many prefer campus sports success to a good degree, a study shows.

## Leader page, 11

Letters: On miners, from Canon Eric James, and others; children, from Mrs M Wynn, and others.  
Leading articles: TUC, Non-Russian Soviet Republics, Joanna Southcott's Box. Features, pages 8-10  
George Walden on the dangers of political swops; Norman Macrae looks back on the future in the first of a three-part series. Obituary, page 12  
Mr S K Armstrong, Dr Robert Press  
World Aerospace, pages 13-18  
Aviation is moving out of recession and airlines are in a buying mood. A six-page Special Report looks at the Farnborough international air show and flying display

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# TUC's pact with miners threatened by two key unions

● The TUC will adopt a pact of mutual aid for the striking miners, against a background of increasing signs that it will never be fully implemented.  
● Mr Frank Chapple, the power union leader, has criticized both Mr Arthur Scargill and Mr Len Murray, over the miners' dispute  
● Three thousand police, standing by for the miners' rally on Brighton beach, are to take a "softly, softly" approach.  
● Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, has challenged the TUC to refuse support for Mr Scargill and striking miners. (page 4).

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Brighton

The Trades Union Congress will today adopt practically by acclamation a pact of mutual aid for the striking miners, but there are increasing signs that it will never be fully implemented.

More than 12,000 workers in the state industry are to vote in a secret ballot designed to prevent a blockade on the movement of coal and coke, and power station electricians will be urged by their union leaders to cross pickets' picket lines.

The steel and power industries are the two most directly affected by the TUC General Council's decision to swing the full weight of the labour movement behind the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM).

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, described the pact as "a clear lead on the miners' strike", and its backers believe it will win a majority of up to nine-to-one in a card vote.

The General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, the largest in the electricity generating stations, has called its officials to a special conference in Brighton tomorrow to discuss ways of implementing the TUC-NUM deal, which seeks to "black" all coal supplies and the oil widely being used as a substitute fuel.

Mr David Bassett, general secretary of the union, said: "It is in the overriding interest of trade unionists that the Government and the National Coal

## 3,000 police ready for mass lobby

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Leaders of the TUC were last night bracing themselves for the biggest demonstration seen at a congress for many years as striking miners started arriving in Brighton for a march and lobby today.

Police and the TUC leaders have appealed for calm although contingency plans are ready to handle a crowd of up to 10,000 with 3,000 police on standby. The "softly, softly" approach being promised by the Sussex police was drawn up after talks with Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, and Mr Kay Buckton, the train drivers' leader, who is this year's TUC chairman.

The National Union of Mineworkers, which is thought to be bringing about 5,000 to the demonstration, has assured the TUC that it will provide stewards. But, according to Mr Murray, "they also said they cannot answer for the fringe groups which always seem to be untagged to our congress."

There will be a march and rally in Brighton this morning as the 1,200 delegates to the TUC prepare to debate the strike in the afternoon.

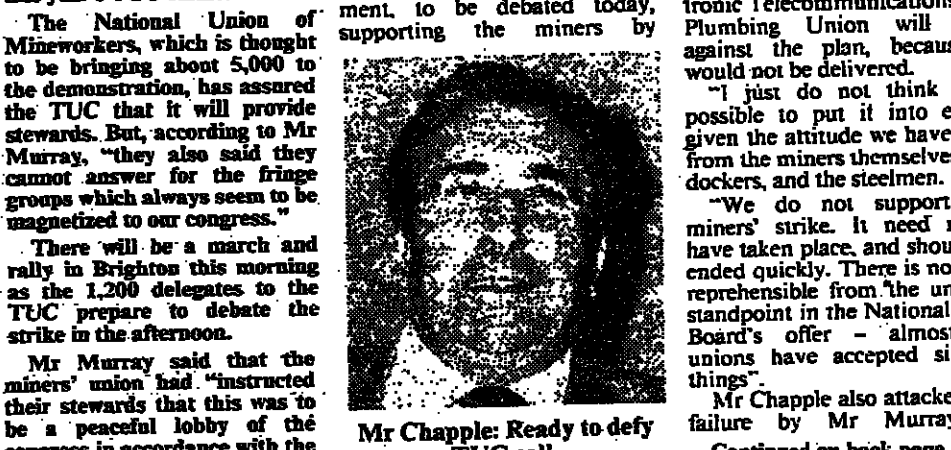
Mr Murray said that the miners' union had "instructed their stewards that this was to be a peaceful lobby of the congress in accordance with the best traditions of trade union lobbies."

Police plan to set-up crowd-control barricades around the front of the Brighton Conference Centre, where the TUC is meeting.

Mr Roger Birch, chief constable of Sussex, has said that his men will not be wearing riot gear unless they are attacked.

He has also said that he will not be using mounted policemen or police dogs.

The rally is expected to be held on the beach and the main fear of the police and TUC leadership is that after lunch the crowd will demonstrate outside the conference and some may try to get into the hall.



Mr Chapple: Ready to defy TUC call.

## Divers begin to raise Mont Louis cargo

By Tony Samstag

Salvage workers off Ostend yesterday began their efforts to raise thirty containers of radioactive material that went down with the French freighter Mont Louis last month.

The Dutch salvage company Smit Tak International said a number of empty containers would be raised today, amid continuing controversy over the nature and state of the cargo.

The environmental activist group Greenpeace says the containers of uranium hexafluoride are floating loose in the

## US accuses Chernenko of spurning offer

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Reagan Administration yesterday gave a guarded welcome to aspects of President Chernenko's statement to Pravda, but described the Soviet leader's assessment of US policy as "unfortunately wholly familiar and wholly false."

Mr Chernenko criticized Washington for trying to broaden the proposed talks on space weapons in Vienna this month to include medium-range and long-range missiles as well.

The State Department expressed disappointment at Mr Chernenko's "refusal to take yes for an answer" by spurning the US agreement to join the talks.

The US has said it intends to send a negotiating team to the Austrian capital although the Soviet Union has rejected the terms of Washington's acceptance.

The Americans insist that the talks - due to open on September 17 - should cover all arms control issues.

Reacting to Mr Chernenko's written answers to Pravda, the State Department said the Soviet leader did not appear to go beyond previous policy statements. It rejected his criticism of the US military build-up, saying that Washington was merely trying to correct imbalances in the East-West military equation which had opened up in recent years.

The US would continue to seek a more stable relationship with Moscow through negotiations, the State Department said, adding that it welcomed Mr Chernenko's statement that "the Soviet Union is also in favour of serious and specific negotiations."

Washington was ready to return to the talks on strategic and intermediate-range nuclear weapons as soon as the Kremlin was ready for a resumption.

The State Department welcomed Mr Chernenko's statement that he was ready for dialogue. "We too are ready for what he calls honest and serious negotiations aimed at finding agreements which will take into consideration the security interest of all countries and peoples."

Chernenko interview, page 6



Mr Bush (left) and Mr Ledingham (centre) with the Ledingham family: Mark, John and Melanie Ledingham; Mrs Ledingham, Neil Ledingham (Photograph: Chris Harris).

## MP tells of secret report on Belgrano

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

The Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs has been urged to ask for a copy of "the Crown Jewels", a top secret Ministry of Defence report on the sinking of the General Belgrano.

Mr Tam Dalyell, the Labour MP for Linlithgow, who has been campaigning for a public investigation into the sinking, has written to Sir Anthony Kershaw, the committee's Conservative chairman, saying that an informant has told him about the existence of the report.

He says that Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, asked for all available information on the attack when he was appointed last year.

The MP says that the minister's request showed understandable prudence, but that the document, which he had been told was called "the Crown Jewels", would be essential reading for a Commons inquiry into the sinking of the Argentine warship.

He had been told that there were only four or five copies in existence, that it was inches thick and that it contained the "crucial" orders recalling the Belgrano back to base on the night of May 1, 1982.

Leaked Whitehall documents have subsequently shown that the Belgrano changed course at 9am on Sunday, May 2, four hours before the cabinet agreed that the ship should be sunk. HMS Conqueror received orders to destroy the ship on course for Argentina, was hit at 8pm.

Mr Dalyell wants to know when the Prime Minister was told of the order sent to the Belgrano.

He said last night: "Being an ambitious politician, Michael Heseltine ordered the report because he did not want to be caught out or slip on this particular banana skin."

The Ministry said last night that it could not comment on the matter.

## Libya visa rule plea as Britons return

By David Nicholson-Lord and Richard Dowden

The Labour Parliamentarians who helped to secure the release of two of a group of six Britons detained without charge in Libya for at least five months yesterday called on the Government to respond to the Libyan gesture by easing visa restrictions and increasing the exchange of diplomats.

Their call came as the two men freed, Mr Douglas Ledingham, aged 35, and Mr George Bush, aged 45, landed at Heathrow airport from Tripoli to be reunited with family and friends. Both said they had been well-treated in captivity and felt "no bitterness whatsoever" towards Libya.

But both Mr Ledingham, British-Caledonian's airport station manager in Tripoli, and Mr Bush, an oil company engineer, agreed that Britain should not exchange Libyans held on terrorist charges in Britain with British detainees in Libya - something the Foreign Office has in any case said it will not consider.

Returning with them on the Libyan Arab Airlines Boeing 707 yesterday were the two Labour Euro-MPs, Mr Richard Balfé and Mr Alf Lomas, to whom the pair were released in Tripoli on Friday night. They were met at Heathrow by Mr Ron Brown, the Labour MP for Leith, who led the delegation of four MPs and two MEPs to Libya.

Mr Lomas, MEP for London North-east, said senior Libyan officials had stressed that the men would not have been freed but for the visit. "We hope this will be the first step. We think

## Union set to end TV blackout

By a Staff Reporter

Thames Television management and the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians last night reached tentative agreement on the dispute which has blacked out Thames programmes since last Monday.

Thames technicians are to meet today to consider the proposals which emerged during talks at the London headquarters of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service. Both sides have agreed not to disclose details of the proposals before the technicians' meeting.

The dispute is over late-night programming levels and proposed cost-cutting rosters. It was the subject of five hours of talks at Acas on Thursday and a further twelve-hour session on Saturday.

## Honecker avoids comment on Bonn visit

Leipzig (Reuters) - The East German leader, Herr Erich Honecker, sidestepped any comment yesterday on whether he would visit West Germany later this month, making an unusually short stop at a West German stand at the Leipzig trade fair.

West German officials, looking for some hint of a visit during Herr Honecker's opening tour of the fair, were visibly surprised by the brevity of his appearance.

He left the BASF chemical company exhibition only two minutes after being greeted by the head of Bonn's mission to East Germany, Herr Hans-Otto Bräutigam.

## Unilever in £355m Brooke Bond bid

By Jonathan Clare

Unilever, one of the world's top 25 industrial companies, has stepped into the battle for control of Brooke Bond, the world's biggest tea producer, with a bid worth £355m.

The bid, announced yesterday, comfortably exceeds a rival offer of £324m made in July by Tate & Lyle, the sugar company, which has been bitterly resisted by Brooke Bond.

However, despite what Unilever's chairman, Mr Kenneth Durham, describes as "constructive discussions" last week, Brooke Bond has not agreed to recommend the new offer to its shareholders.

Unilever says that Brooke Bond's tea interests, especially in Britain, would complement its existing tea business under the Thomas J. Lipton name, which is strong in the US but weak in Britain. Brooke Bond, renowned for its tea drinking chimpanzees which have been advertising PG Tips since 1956, has almost no interests in the US market.

The terms of Unilever's offer are 14p in cash for every share in Brooke Bond. This compares with Tate & Lyle's offer of one of its shares plus 35p in cash for every seven shares held in Brooke Bond.

Unilever, which is one of the world's biggest producers of detergents and margarine, says its research and development activities would benefit Brooke Bond's products.

Unilever also said that it had built up a stake of 15 million shares in Brooke Bond, equivalent to about 4.8 per cent of its total equity.

Mr Durham said in a statement yesterday: "We have of course been watching closely the progress of Tate & Lyle's bid for Brooke Bond and at the end of last week approached Brooke Bond to disclose our interest."

Constructive discussions were held during which the considerable commercial logic of a merger with Unilever was reviewed. We expressed our concern at Brooke Bond's ability to maintain its independence and have therefore decided to make a public offer to the Brooke Bond shareholders."

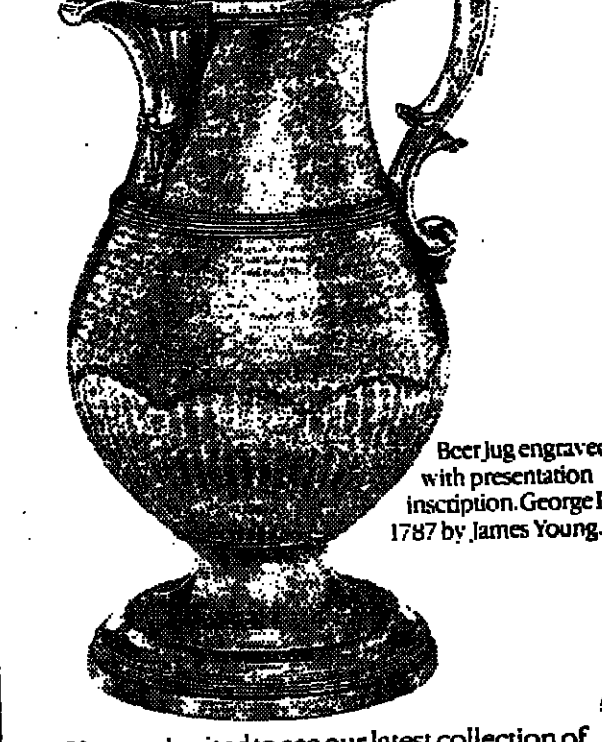
Before Tate & Lyle made its offer, Brooke Bond shares were trading at only 75p. They closed at 110p on Friday and the increase means that Brooke Bond now has a higher stock market value than Tate & Lyle.

Last Thursday Tate & Lyle extended its offer for three weeks after receiving acceptances representing less than 0.6 per cent of Brooke Bond's shares.

Last week there was speculation in the City that "a white knight" would appear with a rival bid. Unilever and Corn Products, a big American company, were considered the most likely candidates.

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## Polytechnic students suffer from employers' bias to university, report states

By Colin Hughes

Employers still treat polytechnic graduates as second best, although more polytechnic courses aim to prepare students for work, a government-backed study shows.

The three-year project investigating students' and employers' expectations of higher education underlines persistent "snobbish" attitudes among employers, according to the team which was led by Dr Maurice Kogan, professor of government at Brunel University.

Students who spend their academic years buried in books without gaining a first-class degree, would be better off spending their time in sports teams, drama societies, and committees if they want to succeed at final job interviews, the study shows.

Many employers admitted that they used higher education attainment only to screen initial applications, and based their choice more heavily on A level grades obtained at school. Final selection of recruits rested more on whether an applicant had been "captain of boats" than the subjects he or she had studied during the past three years.

The researchers say that they found "considerable gaps" in employers' understanding of the British higher education system,

"including regular and large-scale graduate recruitment". Employers were "deeply conservative" and failed to fully exploit what the system had to offer.

A large body of employers would consider only undergraduates from Oxford, Cambridge, and certain red-brick universities. Only three out of 201 employers looked exclusively at polytechnic students. Students rightly rated motivation and leadership potential as the top qualities sought by prospective employers, but the students then expected work experience, course content, and class of degree to count. In fact, employers were less concerned with academic performance than personal attributes and interests.

The researchers found that sixth formers applying for higher education also regard polytechnics as second best. Nearly half of students at polytechnics had also applied for university, and their A level grades were half as good. Once they had begun their polytechnic course, 92 per cent of polytechnic students were satisfied and thought employers should take more notice of their vocationally oriented study.

Students wanted careers with rapid promotion, responsibility, and long-term prospects. Half

thought that prestige, social status and a high future salary were important, but the opportunities to travel and change jobs were higher priorities than a good starting salary.

Few students had any reservations about working for profit-making firms, and most believed that a thriving private sector was essential to the country's economic wellbeing, but 60 per cent were prepared to stay unemployed until they found to job they wanted.

One large recruiter of technical graduates told the researchers: "People only go to polytechnics if they cannot get into university. A levels are not a bad judge of a person's academic ability. If you get someone who is only capable of getting two 'E's they normally cannot get a university place, but they can get a place at a polytechnic."

One merchant banker who recruited exclusively from Oxford and Cambridge commented: "Nothing against polytechnics; it is simply that we can find the right people we want from the universities we go to, so why make life more difficult?"

*Expectations of Higher Education* (10 research papers), (Department of Education and Science, Brunel University).

## Scheme would halve education bill

By a Staff Reporter

Proposals to halve the nation's education bill and save £7,000m from public funds are made posthumously today by Lord Vaizey, the Prime Minister's former economic adviser who died last month.

Shortly before he died Lord Vaizey drew up plans which he believed could slash the annual bill for education, according to him £300 a year at present for every man, woman and child in Britain.

He says that declining class sizes since the early 1960s have done nothing to improve school standards, and 10 per cent could be saved from the £7,000m

school bill by increasing the numbers in classes. A simultaneous salary increase, but should be paid strictly according to performance.

Another five per cent would be saved by increasing the assisted place scheme, whereby less well-off parents receive grants to help pay for their children to be educated at private schools. Initially, Lord Vaizey says, the measure would increase public spending, but more parents would opt for independent schooling and would contribute towards it.

Most children would leave school at the age of 14, and go straight on to a four-year vocational course. The course would be run by the Manpower Services Commission.

Although that would increase MSC spending by £3,000m, another £2,000m would be saved by abolishing non-advanced further education, and saving on supplementary benefit.

Student loans and increased ratios of students to lecturers would save £1,200m of higher education costs.

Lord Vaizey's proposals are outlined in this month's *The Director* magazine, published today.

## Cane used widely in schools

By a Staff Reporter

More than 80 per cent of schools in areas where corporal punishment is still allowed in Britain continue to permit beating as punishment.

The Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment, STOPP, has carried out the largest-ever survey of corporal punishment policies. It identified, by reading the prospectuses which all schools are now obliged to publish for parents, all of the schools in 58 local education authorities which still use the cane and other forms of corporal punishment.

It says that 15 of the 104 authorities have banned the practice. In the remaining authorities 81 per cent of secondary schools continue to use physical punishment.

The society comments: "Britain's head teachers remain the educational dinosaurs of Europe. This survey underlines the fact that child-beating will never die out of its own accord. The canes, belts, and other weapons, must be phased out of the teacher's hands by local authorities and central government."



Lord Vaizey: Increase class numbers

## Children more unruly, teachers believe

Three out of four school-teachers believe that children starting at primary schools are markedly more disruptive and badly behaved than they were five years ago, a survey shows.

Teachers are also disturbed by the growing number of children who enter reception classes without toilet training, cannot eat with a knife and fork, lack basic good manners, and cannot dress and undress themselves.

The Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association, which carried out the survey of 156 schools, says the survey reflects "the increasing difficulties

many teachers now face in our primary schools" and adds that it "does not bode well for our secondary schools either".

In its journal *Report*, the association cites findings that aggression towards other pupils, defiance of teachers, destructiveness, use of obscene language and tantrums, had all grown worse in recent years.

Twenty schools said that more than half the pupils in reception classes posed discipline problems. One infant school in Barnsley said the 30 per cent of pupils presented serious discipline problems five

years ago, against 70 per cent now.

Another in Hampshire said that the figure had grown from 10 to 75 per cent and that children were unable to listen to teachers and showed a growing lack of respect for adults and property.

Teachers unanimously blame parents and the atmosphere at home and recommended that boys and girls should be better educated for parenthood at secondary school.

The association will hold a conference in London this autumn to discuss the report, *The Reception Class Today*.



Young recruits to an ancient army: Nicholas and Christopher Roveta (aged four and seven) coming to grips with one of the fantasy war games at the Games Day exhibition in London at the weekend (Photograph: John Voos).

## Directors want benefits reform

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

A radical reform and re-entrenchment of Britain's supplementary benefit system to reduce the number receiving financial help from the state has been put to the Government's social security reviews by the Institute of Directors.

The present supplementary benefit system should be replaced with a low, basic minimum income, covering fewer people and with a less generous standard of living, the institute says.

The automatic availability of items such as free school meals, free milk and heating additions for families with young children should be ended. The children's rate of supplementary benefit should be reduced to the rate of child benefit, the institute says, and supplementary benefit for those under 21 should be significantly reduced.

Those on the basic minimum income would be allowed to keep savings, rather than having them taken into account before the benefit was given, and could earn up to about £10 a week

without having the minimum income withdrawn. Thereafter it would be withdrawn at a high rate, for example about 50p in the £1 as income rose.

Such an approach would help solve the poverty and unemployment traps, the institute argues, by taking the basic income below the level where they operate, while providing incentives for people to take low-paid work.

Such an approach would allow reductions in income tax, which would help the low, paid. Reductions in supplementary benefit for children would be replaced with relatively generous child tax allowances. Money would be freed to provide greater help for those who genuinely cannot help themselves, for example the chronically sick, the blind and the senile.

The Institute argues that most people are capable of looking after themselves financially and that supplementary benefit is now supplementary only in name. The proportion

supported has risen from one 33 of the population in 1948 to one in eight at present.

Its value has risen from 54 per cent of net average earnings in 1961 to 64 per cent in 1982, and the balance has tilted more and more against work incentives.

"Supplementary benefit for the unemployed represents a wage for not working that is highly competitive with low earnings determined by market conditions," the institute says. Sometimes it is higher.

The principal difficulty is that the benefits cover a large part of what those on or near average earnings can expect to provide for themselves by working. "The poverty which the supplementary benefit system seeks to relieve is a substantial measure tax-induced," the institute says.

In the longer term, it argues that national insurance contributions should be abolished in stages.

Letters, page 11

## University opposes technology institute

By Bill Johnston, Technology Correspondent

Salford University and the National Computing Centre in Manchester are to propose to the Government that any idea for a new technology university be rejected and that half of the additional 2,000 high technology graduates needed each year by British industry be provided by them.

Professor John Ashworth, Salford's vice-chancellor, has criticized the idea of a new institution because there are under-utilized resources in British universities. The idea of an industry-funded technology university came to light last month when the Department of Trade and Industry admitted that Mr Kenneth Baker, the Information Technology Minister, had been conducting discussions with senior industrialists about such an institute.

The department, however, said: "The plans for a privately-funded university represent an initiative from industry, not the government."

Salford and the computing centre will send their joint proposal to the department soon. Professor Ashworth headed a team from the National Economic Development Office which published a report yesterday highlighting the shortage of information technology skills in Britain and the lack of industrial strategy.

In the forward, the professor wrote: "Information technology is not just the basis on which new industries are being built and old industries transformed. It is fundamentally changing, for good or ill, the whole of our society."

The report calls on the Government to support the information technology industry. The study team reiterated its fears that the United Kingdom supply industry was weak. "It is a £4,000m output industry growing at 20 per cent a year, but its share of the aggregate output of the five leading national information technology industries has dropped from 9 per cent to 5 per cent since 1970," it said.

*Crises facing UK information technology: NEDO, Millbank, London SW1P 4QX; £3.*

## Pay rises top rate of inflation

Most workers have had pay increases above the rate of inflation for the second successive year, according to recent findings of the Labour Research Department.

Three out of four received increases above the present rate of 5 per cent. Although settlements in the private sector remain well ahead of those in the public sector, only 4 per cent of public sector workers received rises below the 3 per cent limit set by the Government.

The number of agreements favouring the low pay has doubled since the last pay round. Holidays and hours worked have improved, with 10 per cent of manual workers reducing their working week by an hour and 5 per cent getting longer basic holidays.

## Youth training entrants double

More than 100,000 school leavers are joining the Youth Training Scheme this year against 45,874 young people who entered last year, the Manpower Services Commission reported.

Mr Roger Dawe, chief executive, said: "We have been able to build on the first year and will continue to improve the quality of the scheme in the second year."

## Call for ban on Gannet cull

The conservation group Sea Shepherd has demanded that Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, order an immediate ban on the annual culling of about 1,000 young gannets on the remote northern island of Sula Sgeir.

Sea Shepherd has described the cull, for which the Secretary of State for Scotland grants special dispensation, as a "barbaric ancient ritual".

Last year's culling of Mr Tidy, a senior executive with Mr Weston's company, was an attempt by the Provisional IRA to raise £5m.

Meanwhile, Dr Garret FitzGerald, due in London this morning for talks with Mrs Thatcher, condemned as "despicable and disgraceful" participation by members of the New York City Police Department band in a Provisional Sinn Féin organised parade commemorating the 10th anniversary of the 1968-69 riots.

## Butterfly lair carried to safety

Four thousand square yards of Heathland near Ipswich is being moved by naturalists today to save the rare silver-studded blue butterfly.

Sainsbury, which is to build a superstore on the site at Warren Heath, is paying £5,000 for six 20-ton Lorries to cart the dug-up heathland to sites by the Orel and at Aldeburgh.

## Detective retires

Mr David Powis, Deputy assistant commissioner head of London detectives for more than seven years, retired at the weekend after 38 years in the police. He is to become controller of security (designate) of the National Westminster Bank.

## Animals and experiments: 1 Government's Bill will lead to new guidelines on pain

Tougher penalties for breaking the law on live animal experiments are being considered for inclusion in a government Bill to reform controls on animal testing. Peter Evans examines the debate about government policy in the first of two articles.

The government is expected to try to help solve a riddle at the heart of all legislation on experiments on living animals: how can anyone know the extent of the pain an animal is suffering?

A new Bill reforming control of experiments on live animals is expected to empower the Home Secretary to issue guidelines on pain. Some common understanding is vital to the whole debate. For the government says that, if an animal suffers severe pain that is likely to endure, it shall at once be painlessly killed.

Under new controls no animal should be subjected to a level of pain greater than is appropriate to the procedure in question.

But what is the "appropriate" level? There is no means of measuring pain. The National Anti-Vivisection Society says that what may be estimated by one person to be severe pain may be dismissed by another as trivial.

As measurement of pain is not possible, reliance in framing and interpreting the guidelines would have to be based upon cumulative experience. A standard condition placing an upper limit on the degree or duration of pain which may be caused in experiments on live animals has been imposed in all licences issued under the 1876 Act since 1987.

The guidelines are expected to be among revised proposals by the Government after its White Paper last year. They are not likely to change its policy fundamentally but could further refine it.

Tougher penalties for breaking the law on experiments are being considered. At present fines of up to £100 can be imposed under the Cruelty to Animals Act.

There are also expected to be proposals for special safeguards for cats, dogs, horses, mules, asses and primates. The need to use them rather than other animals would have to be established before permission was granted.

The Government's revised proposals are expected to be issued in the New Year.

The Home Office acknowledges that the testing of cosmetics is "perhaps the most strongly criticized aspect of the present system".

Anti-vivisectionists argue that there is no need for the tests since products can contain ingredients whose safety has long been established through human experience.

Under the new legislation, the Home Secretary will refer all applications for authority to conduct experiments for the purpose of testing cosmetics to an Animal Procedures Committee for scrutiny.

The Government says in a recently-printed reply to critics that because cosmetics and toiletries come into contact with the skin "their formulations are bland and it is most unlikely that they will seriously harm the animals on which they are tested". If they do cause irritation or pain the animal is protected by the licence condition designed to ensure that no severe and enduring pain is suffered.

There were 18,037 experiments in 1983 to select, develop or study the use, hazards or safety of cosmetics and toiletries. The experiments included 9,399 using guinea pigs, 4,552 with rabbits, 2,640 with rats and 1,367 with mice.

According to a source in the industry, animals are most likely to be used for tests in the development of fluoride toothpaste, anti-dandruff shampoos, or sun-screen products.

Another target for critics is a government proposal to modify the existing requirement that an animal that has been anaesthetized must always be killed at the end of the experiment. The reuse of the animal should be permitted, the government says, provided that on the second occasion it is fully anaesthetized throughout and humanely destroyed.

To those who regard reuse of animals as a backward step, the Government says in its printed reply to critics: "The new legislation will not allow any animal to be preserved if it is likely to suffer effects or have suffering lasting harm, or to be reused without the Home Secretary's permission."

The Bill is also intended to remove the ban under the existing Act on the use of living animals for acquiring manual skills for micro-surgery.

A spokesman for the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry said: "If you want new medicines you have to have animal experiments. There were at present no valid alternatives to the use of animals for the assessment of the safety of new substances, but other methods could supplement the information obtained."

Tomorrow: Activists and targets

## Armed raids defended by Sinn Féin

By a Staff Reporter

A leading member of Provisional Sinn Féin has defended his party's military wing carrying out armed raids in the republic to raise funds for its activities.

But Mr Danny Morrison, its publicity director, admitted that the Provisional IRA had the potential to hurt electorally the political wing of the movement.

In an interview published in the Dublin-based *Magill* magazine, Mr Morrison says: "The IRA has to do what the IRA has to do. For example, in the abduction of Don Tidy - which obviously arose because the IRA needed finances to wage the struggle in the North - the IRA has to find funds somewhere, and it's obvious that it's going to try to raise money in the 26 counties."

Mr Morrison, Provisional Sinn Féin assemblyman for Ulster-Mid, said that "out of desperation the IRA raised finances using the methods it did in the South."

The government in the republic and its security forces have frequently linked increasing armed robbery at banks and post offices, as well as kidnappings, with attempts by paramilitary organizations to raise funds. The abortive attempt to kidnap Mr Galen Weston last year was an operation carried out by men who shouted "Up the Provos" when they were jailed.

Last year's kidnap of Mr Tidy, a senior executive with Mr Weston's company, was an attempt by the Provisional IRA to raise £5m.

Meanwhile, Dr Garret FitzGerald, due in London this morning for talks with Mrs Thatcher, condemned as "despicable and disgraceful" participation by members of the New York City Police Department band in a Provisional Sinn Féin organised parade commemorating the 10th anniversary of the 1968-69 riots.

His government got in touch with the American authorities in an attempt to stop the bandmen playing and senior police officers talked to them before the parade in Bundoran co Donegal, on Saturday, informing them of the background and also that 11 members of the republic's police had been killed as a result of the Provisionals' campaign.

## Protestants fear border campaign

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Protestants living in isolated communities on the 300-mile border with the Irish Republic fear terrorists are waging a campaign aimed at driving them from their farms and the area.

But although many unionist politicians believe that only, or supporting sons are singled out as targets, many of those killed have been Catholics with security forces. This, Provisional IRA says, makes them legitimate targets because, as one unionist councillor said: "They are seen as part of the British war machine."

Such is the fear engendered by republican terrorism that farmers, bereaved families, and even a Presbyterian minister refused to be named in case it drew attention not only to themselves, but also their community.

The ripple-like effects of border killings spread further in a rural community than in urban areas, breeding siege mentality where Protestants are suspicious of the British Government's motives, angered that people in Britain do not care for their plight, and fearful that if the province were repatriated, unionists in the east would dump them.

Each killing or attempted murder drives the Roman Catholic and Protestant communities on the border further apart.

In areas where everyone knows whether land is owned by Protestants or Roman Catholics, unionists believe people with local knowledge are "fingering" targets as part of a policy to force a change of land ownership.

Mr Les Maginnis, Official Unionist MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone, said: "Surely it is no coincidence that men who are only sons, or the only son left at home running a farm, or a prominent businessman with a commitment to the community are being picked out."

The Times overseas selling prices: £12.50 (incl. postage) per copy. Single copies 50p. Subscriptions: £12.50 (incl. postage) per annum. Back issues: £1.50 each. The Times is published daily except on Sundays and public holidays. Printed by the Times Newspapers Ltd, 1, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. Tel: 01-533 3061. Fax: 01-533 3062.

**Bloomsbury Book Auctions**

TWO IMPORTANT AUTUMN SALES

The sale of the first part of the outstanding collection of books illustrating the art of printing formed by the late W R JEUDWINE will be held on Tuesday, 18 September at 3pm.

The reference library of the late A J B KIDDELL of books on pottery, porcelain and glass (many annotated) will be sold on Thursday, 18 October at 1pm.

Catalogues available from Bloomsbury Book Auctions, 3 & 4 Hardwick Street, London EC1R 4RY. Tel: 01-833 2636/7 or 01-636 1945

To be held on the new premises at Hardwick Street

## Cash battle to aid blast victim's son

By a Staff Reporter

The parents of a woman killed in a bomb explosion at a public house have been unable to get any compensation or discretionary payment to help their dead daughter's young son.

Ruth Dixon was at the Droppin' Well in Ballykenny, co Londonderry, celebrating her twenty-fourth birthday with friends when 7lb of explosives detonated. She and 16 others, 11 of them soldiers, were killed in the explosion 18 months ago.

Mr Lester Dixon, and his wife, Hazel, have legal guardianship of their grandson, Stephen, now aged seven. They receive £4.55 a week less in state benefits specifically for him than his unmarried mother collected when she was alive.

After representations from Mr William Ross, Official Unionist MP for Londonderry East, the Northern Ireland Office is to review the case. Mr Ross said: "In this particular case, the problem is that because the mother was unemployed and, of course, it is a single parent family, the child has no right to compensation."

"While I agree with the general theory that one must have an economic basis for compensation being made, there is a moral issue involved."

The boy's grandparents, while receiving child benefit and guardians' allowance of £14.10 a week, thought that they might be entitled to compensation through the

Criminal Injuries Compensation Northern Ireland Order, 1977.

Legal experts say that the order looks at the case in purely financial terms and if someone has been unemployed, receiving state benefit, there has been no financial loss, and so no compensation.

Mr Dixon hoped he could get a discretionary payment to invest as a lump sum for his grandson when he was aged 18, but again the legislation relates only to when a husband has been killed and a widow is making a claim.

In 1969-70, the Northern Ireland Office paid out £151,876 in compensation for criminal injuries, and last year that figure had risen to £8.4m.

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# NHS charges for patients and private care rebate advocated by 'think tank'

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

A £50-a-year rebate from the Government for everyone taking out private health insurance, and the introduction of an average £50 charge for accommodation in NHS hospitals, plus charges for visits to family doctors, non-essential drugs, family planning and non-emergency ambulance transport were recommended yesterday by the Adam Smith Institute.

For those unable to pay, the Government should provide a medicard, or health credit card to all recipients of social security, the free-market think-tank argues. It says, however, that such exemptions should not go too wide, or they would defeat the object of the exercise.

The medicard could be used to pay for private medical treatment, provided limits were set on charges, as well as for NHS treatment, on which charges were levied, the institute says. That would allow more consumer choice, would encourage the private sector and reduce the strain on the NHS.

At present, the institute

argues, many of the resources of the health service are spent on people who are quite able to pay for their own way. Charging, especially for non-essential services would seem a reasonable way of asking the more affluent to take up a greater part of the health care burden. A £5 a day charge for hospital accommodation, producing a £50 charge for an average 10-day stay, would mean putting the equivalent value on health care that people put on a TV licence.

Charges should be introduced for injuries from dangerous sports. "It seems unreasonable that those who are cautious should subsidize those who deliberately expose themselves to risk of injury," the institute says, while consideration could be given to compulsory insurance for such activities.

Charges to visit the family doctor would help deter the estimated 40 per cent of visits to GPs by people who are not ill, the institute argues.

Providing a £50 a year rebate to those who take out private

health insurance - about 25 per cent to 35 per cent of an average policy - would lead to a "quite sizeable exit" of people from National Health Service cover. "In our estimation, it would be realistic to predict that the rebate would recover its costs from the third year of its operation and would go on to take significant strain off the NHS thereafter", the institute says.

For the elderly, who are often uninsurable for health care or who would face extremely high premiums, the Government could cover the entire cost of insurance premiums, subject to a means test to ensure wealthier individuals were not covered.

The institute also suggests scrapping health authorities, privatization of hospital management, a bigger role for GPs in providing routine tests and X-rays, and moves to provide free telephones to the elderly to help keep them out of hospital.

Omega Health Policy, Adam Smith Institute, PO Box 316, London SW1P 3DJ; £5.80.

## Sour apples could ruin home trade

By John Young

Agriculture Correspondent  
English apple producers are concerned that their efforts to regain a larger share of the home market from continental importers may be undermined by a few growers hoping to make a quick profit by selling unripe fruit.

Coxes, for example, will not be properly ready for eating for another month. But Mrs Teresa Wickham, chairman of the Women's Farming Union, fears that sour, immature fruit finding its way into some shops may deter people from buying coxes when they are at their best.

Apart from a few early varieties such as Discovery, this time of year generally marks a lull between the ending of imports from the southern hemisphere and the start of fierce competition between English producers and the annual flood of Golden Delicious from France.

## Airports record

A record 5.4 million passengers used the seven airports run by the British Airports Authority in July, a 7.4 per cent increase on the previous highest level in the same month last year. The airports are Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Prestwick and Aberdeen.

## Legal aid warning in divorce cases

By Jenny Knight

Couples about to be divorced are given a warning today to beware of unexpected costs that come when they discover they must pay for the legal services that they may have thought were free.

A book on divorce costs and legal procedures, published by the Consumers Association, shows that many people who battle through the courts with the help of legal aid fail to realize that if they win a cash or property settlement the money spent on their legal aid must be repaid from it.

Edith Ridinger, the book's editor, gives a warning that costs of a typical divorce where issues of property, cash and access to children are fought, may range from £800 per party up to £3,000.

The book says that many people believe they will not have to pay anything if they are legally aided. They do not realize that if they win the money they are claiming, their financial circumstances will have changed and the legal aid will have to be paid for. The Consumers Association estimates that legal costs range from £30 an hour for a solicitor in a country practice, to £100 an hour in a top City practice.

Many of the one-in-four couples seeking divorce in Britain today view obtaining

the divorce decree itself as the main difficulty. But, with the introduction of easier divorce proceedings in recent years that is not the case, the book says. It is money matters that are one of the biggest hurdles in divorce.

It urges divorcing couples to be realistic and behave rationally when they sort out divorce matters involving finance, housing and children. The book also gives a warning that couples must accept that their standard of living will usually drop, often quite drastically, after a divorce, especially if children are involved and only one party is working.

A further warning is given against pre-divorce spending sprees. The book says that it is not uncommon for divorcing people to spend money redecorating homes or buying new equipment. Spending on phone bills, cigarettes, alcohol and clothes is also likely to increase.

Edith Ridinger said yesterday that solicitors should make it absolutely clear that people may eventually be faced with a considerable legal aid contribution, if they contest every issue. Many people still believed the service would be entirely free.

Divorce: Legal Procedures and Financial Facts Consumers Association (£4.95).



Mrs Norah Harvey, daughter-in-law of Private Harvey (left) laying a wreath at the service. PC McCrery (right) shows the soldier's VC and four other medals yesterday (photographs: John Voos).

## One man's tribute to forgotten VC hero

By Kenneth Gostling

Eighteen months ago Police Constable Nigel McCrery, of Nottingham sold a collection of medals worth £8,000 and paid £9,500 for a Victoria Cross. "It was the best move I ever made in my life", he says.

It was a decision that led yesterday to a moving ceremony in a churchyard in Surrey where the holder of that VC, Private, later Corporal, Jack Harvey was buried in 1940, aged 49.

Private Harvey won the highest military decoration for bravery in 1918 and it was after buying the VC that PC McCrery determined to find out more about him. In the process he rounded up 15 relatives who were present at Redstone Cemetery, Redhill, yesterday, along with civic and military dignitaries as the Last Post was sounded by a trumpeter of the

Queen's Regiment over Private Harvey's refurbished grave complete with its new headstone.

It was 66 years ago to the day that Jack Harvey performed the act of gallantry that won him the VC. A member of the 1/22nd London Regiment (the Queen's), he took a machine-gun post single-handed.

Then he ran along a trench for 200 yards and rushed an enemy dugout, compelling 37 Germans to surrender. "By these two acts of great gallantry", the citation says, "he saved the company heavy casualties and enabled the whole of the attacking line to advance".

PC McCrery was shocked to find Jack Harvey's grave unmarked and unkempt; it was the regiment that cleaned it up

and provided a headstone and arranged yesterday's service of commemoration.

PC McCrery is keeping the VC in a bank "for the foreseeable future". It had spent 20 years in Canada before coming on the market and was reputed to have been sold by Private Harvey's widow for £60 after she remarried.

He is hoping to get an artist friend to do a painting of Harvey performing his act of valour which he plans to present to the regiment. It will show him wearing all his medals, including the VC which PC McCrery regards as equal in philatelic terms to securing a rare Penny Black.

It is all part of PC McCrery's personal tribute to the magnificent courage and dogged determination of a brave soldier.

Forty years after the end of the Second World War, Bognor Regis honoured its war dead yesterday. When two tablets containing the names of 255 Servicemen and women who lost their lives fighting between 1939-45 were unveiled at the resort.

## Lifeboat men honoured

More than 100 lifeboatmen - and one woman - received the freedom of the borough of Great Yarmouth yesterday. The past and present crews of the RNLI stationed at Gorleston, and of the privately run volunteer boat at Caister, assembled for the ceremony. The woman was Kim Edwards, aged 25, and the oldest lifeboatman present was Mr Charles Knights, aged 95.

## Father is questioned about dead baby

By a Staff Reporter

Police were yesterday questioning Mr Andrew Neil, the father of Tyra Neil who died on Saturday aged 21 months, while Mrs Janet Boateng, chairman of Lambeth social services committee, met care chiefs to set up an inquiry into the death.

The baby had been thrust into the arms of a nurse at Guy's Hospital three days earlier by an aunt. The child was covered in bite marks and bruises and was operated on for head injuries. A post mortem examination will be held this afternoon.

Police said that they wanted to talk to her father, and late on Saturday night Mr Neil, aged 20, an unemployed electrician from Bonham Road, Brixton, went into Brixton police station with his solicitor. He was interviewed yesterday by Det Chief Supt Colin Evans.

The baby had been made a subject of a council care order after her brother, Tyrone, was bludgeoned when aged four months old. Tyrone, now aged three, is cared for by foster parents.

Mrs Boateng said yesterday: "I am calling for full inquiries, for both an internal one and then an independent one."

"I shall be asking for a full explanation of the circumstances surrounding the death of Tyra. We have some good child care policies in Lambeth and I think it is too early to talk of making changes. Most likely something went wrong in this case, but it is too early to comment."

Mrs Boateng said that the council's internal inquiry will begin today. She expects the results in two weeks and then plans to set up an independent inquiry led by child care experts who are not connected with Lambeth council.

The police have already questioned and released Claudette Henry, aged 20, the dead girl's mother, who lives in Brixton.

# RETIREMENT PENSION WIDOW'S BENEFIT CHILD'S SPECIAL ALLOWANCE CHILD BENEFIT

## How to get your benefit during DHSS industrial action

We are sorry that industrial action at our Newcastle computer centres means that some changes are still necessary in the way some benefits are paid:

If you get your pension book from a local DHSS office because your retirement pension is combined with supplementary pension, you can ignore this information. Otherwise, please check below to see whether you are affected, then follow the advice given.

### RETIREMENT PENSION, WIDOW'S BENEFIT, CHILD'S SPECIAL ALLOWANCE OR CHILD BENEFIT

If you have a current order book continue to cash it at the post office in the usual way until it runs out.

When your order book runs out you can still be paid on it at the post office. But the post office can only make one emergency payment at a time, so go there every week, or every 4th week if you are paid 4-weekly. Take your old order book with you, and your second book if you have one. If you can't go there yourself someone else can collect your money for you, but they must take evidence of their own identity with them.

If you are temporarily away from home you can get up to two emergency payments on your old book at

another post office. Check the notes on the inside back cover of your order book.

If you do not collect your payments every week, the missed payments will be made to you when normal service is resumed. If you cannot wait until then, contact your local DHSS office.

However, you cannot be paid on your old order book if:

- your book was for widow's allowance (contact your local DHSS office for advice), or
- you have applied to change to payment by credit transfer (see below).

### RETIREMENT PENSION OR WIDOW'S BENEFIT ONLY

If you are already paid by credit transfer, payments will normally continue to be made to your account at the same rate as your last payment. If no payment is made, contact your local DHSS office.

If you have applied for payment by credit transfer but no payment has yet been made into your account, contact your local DHSS office. Let them have your old order book if you still have it.

Payable orders cannot be issued by the Newcastle computer centre during the industrial action. If you are normally paid 4-weekly or quarterly by payable order, write to, phone or call at your local DHSS office (or if you live outside the UK write to DHSS Overseas Branch, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE98 1YX). Let them

have your full name and address and the whole tear-off portion of your last payable order, if you still have it. Otherwise, give your pension number, the type of pension, the weekly amount and the normal payment interval. You only need to do this once.

### CHILD BENEFIT ONLY

If you are already paid by credit transfer, or if we have written to say you will be paid in this way when your order book runs out, your payments should not be affected. But there may be slight delays in crediting your account. If a payment has not been made by the due date and you cannot wait a few days, contact your local DHSS office for advice. Let them have your old order book if you still have it.

### New claims

If you have claimed child benefit for the first time, or have claimed for another child, there may be some delay before we can pay you. This applies whether you have asked for payment by order book or credit transfer. If you cannot wait, contact your local DHSS office.

If you don't have your order book or there is a change in your circumstances, please get in touch with your local DHSS office. Please do not write to DHSS Newcastle (unless you live abroad) until further notice.

Department of Health and Social Security



Highland posies: The Queen and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, watched by the Prince of Wales, accepting bunches of heather on Saturday at the Braemar Games

## Post office accused over 2nd class mail

Nearly one in five postcards sent by second class mail failed to arrive within three working days, according to a Mail Users' Association survey published yesterday.

With the second class stamp price rising by 1p to 13p today, the group claimed that the survey showed a "substantial and continuous shortfall in second class quality of service".

A Post Office spokesman yesterday described the survey as "statistically invalid".

The Mail Users' Association logged posting and arrival times of 4,376 cards returned by companies and organizations. Only 80.6 per cent arrived by the third working day after posting.

The post office spokesman said its own figures showed 93.3 per cent of deliveries arriving within three working days. The Association acknow

ledged that its survey between January and April, was distorted by rail disruption during the TUC day of action in March.

Even after the strike week was removed from the sample, the association claimed only 86.7 per cent of cards arrived within three days. Mr Michael Corby, its executive director, said the survey showed "a substantial and continuous shortfall in the second class quality of service" and suggested "major structural weaknesses".

The association recommended a big reappraisal on post mechanization, restoration of the inspection system dismantled in the 1970s, and more responsibility for regions and the head post offices.

Price rise, Times Information Service, Back page

## Hammer blows killed major's family

The wife of Major Lance Ruck-Keene, a military intelligence adviser, and her two sons, who were found dead in a car on Friday, were killed by hammer blows to the head.

Major Ruck-Keene, aged 37, who was with his family, died from carbon monoxide poisoning, post-mortem examinations yesterday showed.

The bodies were discovered in a car at the family home in Green Lane, Shepperton, Surrey. Major Ruck-Keene, who worked at Whitehall, is believed to have been a military adviser to MI6, the intelligence service.

Police are treating the deaths as domestic murders and a suicide. A date for the inquests is to be set.



## TUC/BRIGHTON

## Minister's pit call

## The political battle

## Walker challenges unions to refuse support for Scargill and strikers

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, yesterday challenged the TUC to refuse support for Mr Arthur Scargill and the striking miners.

He told a Young Conservative summer school in Manchester: "The coal board loses millions of pounds and coalface after coalface is destroyed by neglect."

"The country suffers from violence, loss of production, and loss of markets. The simple fact is that there would have been no trouble for the TUC, the NUM, the coal board or the country if the NUM had complied with its normal procedure and held a ballot before a strike took place."

"The rejection of that procedure has brought division and misery. The TUC this week has a duty to be the true voice of its members and not an expression of a minority political viewpoint."

Mr Walker, fresh from a holiday in Greece, said that opinion poll after opinion poll showed that most trade unionists wanted the miners to ballot, and were not willing to support Mr Scargill in any way.

It was time that the NUM joined with the coal board and the Government to agree an extension of the *Plan for Coal* which would make Britain "the greatest coal producing nation in western Europe".

Mr Walker said: "If instead of this the TUC wish to encourage the NUM executive, under the pressures of its president, to continue with the use of an army of mob pickets that has already been charged with more than 5,000 criminal offences, if the TUC is willing to encourage the continuance of conflict against the steel industry and power-using industries up and down the country, then it will be damaging to the prospects of full employment and to the whole future of the coal industry."

The Minister's speech came after a scathing personal attack on Mr Scargill.

He said in an article in *The Sunday Times* that the NUM leader had "lied" in his efforts to bolster support for the strike, that he had a political preference for conflict rather than cooperation, that he had been leading the "mob" when picket line violence had peaked at Orgreave, and that he had "plotted" to give the miners a ballot.

Mr Walker's comments were all the more remarkable in the light of the Prime Minister's view that commenting on the current disputes was "like treading in eggshells".

Mr Walker compared Mr Scargill's attitude to ballots to that of the Polish socialist state and said: "The TUC and the Labour Party have to decide whether they are going to appear as Mr Scargill's lackeys."

The *Sunday Times* print run was delayed after union leaders, in Brighton, objected to the article, and to another by Mr Frank Chapple.

A Whitehall source said yesterday that a majority of a 10-strong panel of stipendiary magistrates has to be specifically appointed, late last month, to deal with the backlog of picketing cases in Rotherham and Chesterfield.

The Government's "obsessive attacks" on trade union rights would be equally strongly attacked by Congress, Mr Murray added.

## Murray predicts unity

This week's Congress would be a united one, Mr Len Murray, the TUC general secretary said yesterday.

"This will be a Congress of common purpose and a shared determination to resist assaults upon the livelihood and living standards of our members and to chart the way forward to the industrial and economic regeneration that Britain so urgently needs," Mr Murray said at a press conference.

Mr Murray said that by endorsing the general council's statement today the TUC would commit itself to full support for the miners' objectives - to protect their jobs and communities and to safeguard the nation's energy resources.

The Government's "obsessive attacks" on trade union rights would be equally strongly attacked by Congress, Mr Murray added.

## General council's ruling group to lose seats to left

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The centre-right group which controls the TUC general council is likely to see its influence diminish this week with the left picking up extra seats on the labour movement's governing body.

Election results for 11 of the 50 seats on the council will be announced in Brighton tomorrow and although it is possible that the left will lose one of the six seats it holds, it will make inroads in other areas.

The main changes, ironically, will flow from the principle of automatic representation for unions with more than 100,000 members, which this year will number 33 seats and to which the left has been strongly opposed.

The right-wing Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, which last year affiliated more than a million members to the TUC, giving it four seats on the general council, will this year have only three because its membership has fallen.

Mr Ray Alderson, a communist, will replace Mr Alistair Graham, the vociferous right-wing general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association, because of a decision by the union's new left-wing executive earlier this year to withdraw its support for Mr Graham.

The left will also be able to call on Mr Raymond Backton, general secretary of Aslef, the train drivers' union who this year has been forced to adopt a less partisan role because of his position as TUC chairman. His replacement in the chair, Mr

Jack Eccles, Lancashire regional secretary of the General Municipal Workers' Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, should mean a further reduction of one in the right's voting strength.

On some issues the left may muster 24 votes compared with right's 26, although much will depend on the attitude of the four members representing NATO, the moderate towns hall union.

Some criticism by the union's conference earlier this year of the general council members' voting record may persuade them to side with the left, particularly on issues such as opposing the employment legislation.

Another unknown quantity will be the voting pattern of Mr Norman Willis, who will take over from Mr Len Murray as TUC general secretary at the end of the week.

In the 11-seat section for unions with fewer than 100,000 members the right could gain a seat through Mr William McCall, leader of the professional civil servants' IPCS, who is said to be making strong showing in the lobby of votes. The left-winger most vulnerable is thought to be Mr Alan Sapper, general secretary of the cine technicians' union.

The new general council will take over at the end of Congress on Friday and its political complexion will be of great significance as it grapples with several controversial issues facing the TUC, most notably the six-month miners' strike.

## Pit debate today

By Barrie Clement

The most important motions will go before the TUC Congress today and tomorrow. This afternoon delegates will debate the miners' strike and the Government's ban on trade unions at the Government Communications Headquarters at Cheltenham.

Tomorrow, trade union legislation is on the agenda together with labour market policy, social insurance and industrial welfare.

On Wednesday there will be debates on education, economic policy, where unemployment will be the dominant issue, and the movement's campaign against privatization.

Motions on equal rights and international matters will be debated on Thursday. Friday, the final day, will be dominated by the election of a successor to Mr Len Murray.

Leading article, page 11



Comrades' grief: Two Sydney 'bikers' mourn over the body of a fellow member

## Seven die in gang battle

Sydney (Reuters) - Seven people including a girl aged 14, were shot dead and 20 wounded yesterday in a gang war between two motor cycle gangs in a car park outside a suburban Sydney hotel.

Members of the gangs, the Banditos and the Comancheros, opened fire with pump-action shotguns and fought for nearly an hour with machetes, screwdrivers and baseball bats.

They called a brief truce to allow casualties to be taken to hospital but carried on fighting when the car park was cleared. Police said fighting flared again in casualty

wards between gang members who had accompanied wounded companions to hospital.

When police finally restored order the toll was seven dead, including the girl caught in the crossfire as she was selling charity raffle tickets. Four of the injured were in a serious condition.

Terrified lunchtime drinkers at the Viking Tavern, in the south-western suburb of Milperra, dived for cover behind the bar and under the tables when the battle began. Several hundred people had gathered around the hotel.

## Sri Lankan forces massacre civilians

From Donovan Moldrich, Colombo

Security forces at Point Pedro, the northernmost town in Sri Lanka, went on a rampage on Saturday night, killing many civilians and setting fire to a number of shops and a leading college. They were reacting to the killing of four policemen that afternoon, when a lorry in which they were travelling was blown up by a landmine at Tikkan, two miles from Point Pedro.

Mr Appapillai Amirthalingam, secretary-general of the Tamil United Liberation Front, told President Jayewardene at the all-party talks yesterday that he believed 18 civilians had been killed at Point Pedro.

Mr Kumar Ponnambalam, secretary-general of the All Ceylon Tamil Congress, who did not attend the talks, said that he had heard that five civilian bystanders were shot at the scene of the explosion and that 19 were killed later.

The Minister of National Security, Mr Lalith Athulath-

udimali, said that, according to government information between six and 10 civilians had been killed and some shops had been burnt. He had not heard reports that Hartley College had been set on fire and that its science laboratory and library had suffered damage.

He said the Government had asked the Inspector General of Police, Mr Rudra Rajasingham, to fly to the north to investigate.

He was certain reports of the armed services going on a rampage were exaggerated but, if warranted, disciplinary action would be taken, as had happened at Manjar, a fortnight ago.

● **DEADLINE SET:** After unprecedented weekend meetings of the all-party conference, President Jayewardene announced yesterday that the Government had taken into account the representations of all the delegations.

## Storm toll tops 150 in Seoul and Philippines

Seoul (Reuters) - More than 100 people were feared dead yesterday as South Korea struggled to recover from three days of torrential rain, floods and landslides.

Thousands of soldiers, police and villagers battled through mud, water and sludge in rescue and repair operations. The known death toll in flood-stricken northern areas has risen to 65, and 42 other people are feared dead and at least 49 injured.

The Han river, which flows through Seoul, threatened to burst its banks. More than 50,000 people living near the river have been evacuated.

Low-flying areas of Seoul are under water after more than 12 inches of rain since Friday night. Most of the dead were carried away by floods or

buried by landslides as they slept.

● **MANILA:** Typhoon Ike, the worst in 14 years, hit the central Philippines yesterday, with 137mph winds and torrential rain leaving at least 50 people dead, a dozen missing and thousands homeless (Keith Dalton writes).

Government television said 11 vessels, including passenger ferries, sank in stormy seas off the central island of Cebu. Ten fishermen are missing and six other vessels were badly damaged or beached.

The typhoon was the strongest since October 1970 when Typhoon Joan battered the country with 170mph winds and left 575 dead.

The death toll is expected to rise sharply after communications are restored.

## Zermatt first

Zermatt (AP) - A Frenchman, Pierre Gexvaux, made the first-ever parachute jump from the 14,690-ft. Matterhorn. A light wind enabled him to clear the Swiss mountains.

## Igor's job

Moscow (Reuters) - Mr Igor Andropov, 43, the diplomat son of former President Andropov, has been appointed Ambassador to Greece, it was officially announced.

## The Canadian election

## Left-wing party looks to the 'little guy'

From John Best, Ottawa

Canada's left-wing New Democratic Party will count it a good day's work if it comes out of the federal election tomorrow with the 32 Commons seats it won in 1980.

It needs to be badly mangled in elections in which one of the two main parties - Liberals and Conservatives - scores a landslide victory. When the Liberals steam-rolled to victory 10 years ago, for example, the NDP was reduced to 16 seats from 31.

If opinion polls can be trusted, the Conservatives are poised for a big win, but this time the NDP may escape the juggernaut.

The latest voter survey, published at the weekend, gives the Tories a nearly two-to-one margin over the ruling Liberals, who have held office continuously since 1963, except for a one-year interlude, spanning 1979-80.

Fifty per cent of decided voters were for the Tories, 27 per cent for the Liberals.

The New Democrats were only six points behind the Liberals, prompting their leader, Mr Ed Broadbent, a former



Mr Broadbent: Aiming for record number of seats

university professor, to say they were "nearly within striking distance" of bettering their best ever tally of 32 seats, in a 282-seat House of Commons.

At the outset of the campaign two months ago the NDP was hovering at around 11 per cent, and it looked as though the party was heading for a serious setback, but it shrewdly took over some left-of-centre ground from the Liberals in the early stages, and improved its position.

Unlike European democratic socialist parties, the NDP is not

strong on sweeping nationalization programmes, although it has called periodically for the nationalization of transcontinental railways.

During the campaign the New Democrats have championed a variety of popular causes, ranging from women's rights to a nuclear-weapons freeze to reducing unemployment with a \$C1.5bn scheme to create 100,000 jobs for young Canadians.

Its campaign advertising constantly plays on the theme that the NDP is on the side of the "little guy", including the 1.5 million who cannot find work, while the Tories and Liberals stand for the tycoons of Toronto's Bay Street financial district.

On defence, the party advocates withdrawal from Nato and the North American Aerospace Defence Command.

The NDP is nothing if not tenacious, but it suffers from the fact that it has never really been a national party, whether under its present name or that of its ideological forbear, the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, which was founded in the Depression and became the NDP 30 years later.



At the front: Mr Arthur Scargill takes a stroll at Brighton yesterday. (Photograph: Peter Trevnor).

## Fresh ballot ruled out at Tilbury

By Barrie Clement

Dock workers' leaders yesterday refused to hold another strike vote at the key port of Tilbury and promised that there would be a national picketing campaign starting today at the big docks still operating.

Mr John Connolly, national docks officer of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said that there was no need for port workers to vote on the strike because it had been endorsed constitutionally and was in support of nationally agreed policy.

Mr Connolly said that there would be a drive to persuade working dockers at 48 of Britain's 72 registered ports to come out, together with an appeal for those outside the National Dock Labour scheme to join the action.

The response to the strike call was not satisfactory. Mr Connolly said, but it was only the smaller units within the scheme that were holding out, with 9,500 out of its 13,500 registered workers idle.

Yesterday's decisions will add to the bitterness at strike-bound Tilbury where there is a widespread belief that a vote on the stoppage last Thursday went against the action.

Mr Connolly said that the campaign to "picket out" recalcitrant members would concentrate on docks handling goods diverted from ports stopped by the action.

Felixstowe, Dover and Sheerness would be among the targets, but there was no intention to disrupt passenger ferries, Mr Connolly said.

Mr Connolly has requested a meeting with the National Dock Labour Board about the use of non-registered labour to land fish at Grimsby.

## Grain trade hope

Fears that a long strike will seriously hinder grain exports and cause a shortage of storage capacity are being largely discounted (John Young writes).

Although much of the grain trade uses ports such as Liverpool, Southampton, Hull and Tilbury, which are strike-bound, the pattern has been steadily changing. An increasing proportion now goes to smaller ports, particularly in East Anglia.

## The miners' strike

## Police paying a high price

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

As the extra cost of policing the miners' dispute reaches £120m in Britain the strain is beginning to tell.

Already Greater Manchester has slapped a two months' ban on recruiting, which could stay for the rest of the financial year if the dispute goes into next month, according to Mrs Gabrielle Cox, chairman of the police committee.

The Chief Constable of Strathclyde, Sir Patrick Hamill, said last week that normal service to the community would be badly affected unless his budget was increased. The extra cost of the National Union of Mineworkers' action up to July 20 was £1.8m.

Faced with a shortage of manpower, Peter Imbert, Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police is pulling men out of specialist squads to provide more cover on the beat. He is expected to ask his police authority next month for about £500,000 to stave off further cutbacks. The reason is extra commitments such as the miners' dispute and Greenham Common protests.

Mr Edwin Shore, who chairs the police and fire committee of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, and is chairman of the West Midlands Police Authority, says that the detection rate there has fallen from 35 per cent to about 29 per cent. The absence of officers who have been on duty in neighbouring counties has clearly affected policing, he says.

The fight against organized crime in six counties is expected to be affected by the withdrawal of Nottinghamshire and South

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, is expected to announce further financial measures to help local authorities.

He has twice before intervened. He told Parliament on May 11 that in recognition of the substantial burden on some police authorities he would make a payment of 40 per cent of gross approved additional spending above the product of a penny rate.

On June 28 he said that where an authority is eligible for the payment its total share of the approved additional spending incurred from the beginning of the dispute up to June 30 would be limited to the product of a penny rate.

Yorkshire from the No 3 regional crime squad because of the cost of the miners' dispute and government economies.

And *Police Review* reports that many rural police stations in North Wales are unmanned because officers have been drafted to the picket lines.

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities gives £17,743,000 as the additional cost to the end of last July for the forces of Greater Manchester, West Midlands, Merseyside, Northumbria, South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire. Most will have to come from local authorities and the police grant from the Home Office, though the Government has announced some help, the association says.

The extra cost of the dispute in the case of 35 forces in the other counties of England and

Wales to the end of July was £76m. But by this last weekend the figure was estimated to have risen to £95m, according to figures compiled for the Association of County Councils.

They show that the main component of the extra cost is overtime.

● Thirty per cent comes from overtime worked by forces policing picketing in their own areas.

● Ten per cent is the extra cost of providing normal cover in areas where there is an NUM dispute while other officers are specially deployed to it.

● Forty per cent is overtime of officers sent on mutual aid.

● Five per cent is covers the overtime needs in the force providing the aid: fewer police have to do more.

The Police Federation confirms that a police constable on duty at a picket line could get £400 or £500 a week in overtime and basic payments.

The Police Federation says that disputes are increasing between officers and their police authorities over overtime payments. One of the reasons is a fear by the police authority from which the officer comes that the receiving authority will not reimburse the amount claimed.

There is a missing figure in the total, the cost involving the Metropolitan Police. Since March 14, officers have been sent to nine authority areas. The biggest recipient was Nottinghamshire.

The extra cost of policing the miners' dispute for the five Scottish forces involved was £2.4m to the end of July.

## Lost wages average £4,543, NCB claims

As the miners' strike enters its 26th week the National Coal Board claimed yesterday that the dispute overall has cost miners an average of £4,543 in lost wages (Glenn Allan writes).

"With average wages of £165 a week, the 25 weeks' stoppage has cost each miner £4,125", a coal board spokesman said.

"But it must be remembered that the strike was preceded by a 19-week, so the overall loss of earnings for the average worker now amounts to £4,543".

The cost to the board in terms of lost sales has been calculated at about £500m, but there was also an incalculable extra cost in terms of lost confidence by customers, which could affect future sales, and which could be evaluated only when the industry was back in operation.

Last night, Mr Michael McCahey, a National Union of Mineworkers vice-president, refused to comment on the board's estimates.

● Ten stipendiary magistrates are to be moved into Yorkshire and Derbyshire coalfields to deal with a backlog of cases arising from the dispute.

● Damage estimated at more than £250,000 was caused when a bulldozer was driven into the wages building at Throckmold colliery, near Rotherham, early yesterday.

● Albert Hirst and Son, makers of world-famous black puddings, has been forced to close because of the strike. The firm, based in Barnsley, has gone into liquidation.

Letters, page 11



# Sikhs excommunicate Indian President for ordering temple assault

From Kalkip Nayar, Delhi

The World Sikh Convention at Amritsar has excommunicated Mr Zail Singh, President of India and Mr Buta Singh, the Sports Minister, both Sikhs. It has also endorsed the Sikh high priests' ultimatum that if the Army was not withdrawn from the Golden Temple by September 30, they would lead a "march of believers to liberate" it.

Despite tight security, some 30 foreigners reached the convention, which was attended by 20,000 Sikhs. It was peaceful except for the stir at times created by the slogans of "Khalistan" or "Jo bole so mihal, sai sri Akal" (an invocation to God).

Opposite the site of the convention a Khalistan (the separate state sought by the Sikh) flag was hoisted. The authorities took some time to remove it, because a large crowd gathered.

The line taken by the convention suggests there is little common ground between the Akalis (the Sikh party), who organized the meeting and Delhi. On the eve of the convention the Home Minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, said in a statement that the Government would be prepared to resume talks with the Akalis provided they denounced secession and agreed that the Sikh temples would not be used for political purposes, storing arms or giving shelter to wanted people.

References to Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, killed when the Army took the Golden Temple, were few. One priest contended that Bhindranwale's body was neither identified by the Army nor by officials.

According to Sikh tradition, Mr Zail Singh and Mr Buta Singh can offer to do penance at Akal Takht, the highest Sikh seat, at Amritsar. The resolution against Mr Zail Singh criticized him for visiting the Golden Temple under an umbrella, which was in "gross violation" of Sikh traditions.

But the main attack on him was that in his capacity as supreme commander of the Indian armed forces he had committed "religious offence" against the Sikhs by ordering troops into the Golden Temple complex in June.

The convention paid homage to Sikh men, women and children "who laid down their lives" during the military operation in the Golden Temple and other shrines.

It was alleged that the "communal-minded central Government" used the excuse of an operation against "some terrorists" to blow up buildings within the temple complex, in addition to burning 2,500 historic hand-written volumes of the Sikh holy book.

When President Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea arrives in Tokyo on Thursday he will be the first leader of an independent Korea to set foot in Japan on an official visit in almost 40 years. David Watts, Tokyo Correspondent, examines the reasons for the long standing state of tension between the two nations in the first of two articles.

President Chun Doo Hwan may well be the first friendly visitor from Korea of such high rank since Koreans helped to modernize Japan through the import of Chinese culture in the sixth century.

absorbed much from the Korean peninsula through Korean artisans and scholars. Antagonisms hardened in 1910, when industrialized Japan annexed Korea, forcing Koreans to learn Japanese and importing thousands of them as slave labour.

They were compelled to take Japanese names, yet denied citizenship and access to most employment other than menial work. "They were not quite as bad as Hitler," according to one Korean, "but they came fairly close".

Since independence, relations have been further strained by Japan's enormous economic influence and Korea's transformation into something approaching an economic colony of Japan in the eyes of many South Koreans.

Efforts to ease the tensions began in earnest in January last year when Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, became the first Japanese leader to visit Seoul. But they still have a long way to go.



AN UNEASY RELATIONSHIP Part 1

Certainly, the fact that 20 years have passed since diplomatic relations were established between the Seoul Government and its former colonial masters without such a visit is a graphic illustration of the historical, racial and political strains that still linger. The history of this tension can be traced back to the sixth century, when the tribes of what eventually became Japan

## Hopes and doubts over Chun visit

# Tension a legacy of centuries of antagonism



Trailblazers: President Chun (left) and Mr Nakasone when the latter visited Seoul last year.

Korea views the visit. Koreans want the Japanese to recant sincerely for what happened during the Second World War and to show they no longer regard Korea as merely a vassal state.

Both the South Korean leader and Mr Nakasone are taking a considerable risk with their domestic constituencies.

In Japan the right, particularly at a time when the country's international self-confidence has reached new heights, believes that the Japanese have nothing to apologize for and it resents any attempt to involve Emperor Hirohito in matters political.

But the Tokyo Government feels that the South Koreans must now be given every support to prevent North Korea from starting a war. It is widely recognized that the next four years will be crucial in this respect, since the North's military superiority will probably decline thereafter.

The benefits for Mr Nakasone could be further enhancement of his image as a bold, outward-looking statesman, but the left could attack him for supporting a repressive semi-dictator and taking Japan into a de facto military alliance with Korea.

For President Chun, lack of humility on the part of the Japanese would bring criticism that he had merely kowtowed to the Japanese, lost national pride and gained little or nothing in return.

Tomorrow: Question of honour

## Surprise in Vienna Cabinet reshuffle

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

In a move to tighten the grip of Chancellor Fred Sinowatz on his Cabinet, Austria's most drastic reshuffle for a decade is to be announced officially today.

Both the foreign and finance ministries will get new heads in the reshuffle which, although it was expected, surprised many Austrians by its suddenness and scale.

Dr Herbert Salcher, the outgoing Finance Minister, had for some months intimated his desire to resign because of serious differences with Dr Sinowatz over proposals for reforming the tax system. Dr Salcher's successor, Dr Franz Vranitzky, at present director of Austria's Landbank, is considered to hold financial views more in line with the Chancellor's.

A more surprising change, indicative of the somewhat unpredictable hierarchy of Austrian politics, is the appointment of the new Foreign Minister, Dr Leopold Gratz, who is currently Mayor of Vienna. He succeeds the highly respected Dr Erwin Lang, who although considered to be an intellectual heavyweight is believed to have been offered his

successor's mayoral post.

Dr Lang's departure from the Cabinet has been seen as the final nail in the coffin of Austria's *Welpolitik*.

Another appointment suggesting that some changes were conceived in a hurry is that of Frau Gertrude Frolich-Sandner as Minister of Family Affairs. She had repeatedly announced during the summer that illness would force her to give up her political career this autumn.

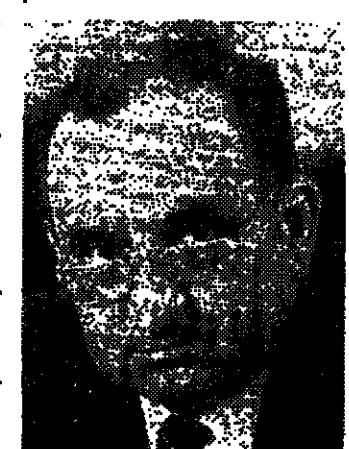
The hijacking, the second by Sikh extremists in less than two months, ended when the youths freed the last 74 hostages and surrendered.

The Boeing 737 was hijacked about 39 hours earlier on a flight between Delhi and Srinagar, capital of Kashmir.

It was diverted first to Lahore, Pakistan and then to Karachi before flying on to the Middle East, where it made an emergency landing at Dubai with its fuel nearly exhausted.

The hijackers, who shouted slogans condemning the Indian Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, and calling for a separate state for India's 13 million Sikhs, said they wanted to go to the United States.

However, United States officials, citing American adherence to the Hague Convention against air piracy, said they would be arrested if they reached United States territory.



Dr Sinowatz: Tightening grip on Cabinet.

## Hijackers returned to India

Delhi (AP) - Seven youths who hijacked an Indian Airlines flight to Dubai more than a week ago are being returned to India after the United States rejected their appeal for political asylum, the United News of India news agency said yesterday.

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## Spain gloomy over EEC entry

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain today is going into what is supposed to be the final round of its negotiations in Brussels for entry to the EEC. Its mood is pessimistic, with France one again seen as the stumbling-block.

Portugal, too, has just learnt from President Mitterrand that it will have to accept delays because of problems raised by Spain's entry. The President stopped over twice in Lisbon on his way to see King Hassan of Morocco.

Spain and Portugal were told by leaders of the Ten at the Fontainebleau summit last June, that their entry was envisaged for January, 1986. Negotiations were to be completed by the end of this month.

Señor Fernando Morán, Spain's Foreign Minister, admitted yesterday before leaving for the ministerial-level negotiations with the Ten that the

positions on both sides were now "pretty far apart."

He said he would seek a prior meeting with M. Claude Cheysson, his French colleague, for an explanation of remarks by M. Michel Rocard, the Agriculture Minister, on French television at the weekend.

The remarks were taken by Madrid to suggest that France may try to delay Spain's entry until the Community has resolved the problem of its already huge wine surplus.

The Spaniards are alarmed because word from Lisbon is that M. Mitterrand spoke to Dr Mario Soares, the Portuguese Prime Minister, about the Spanish negotiations now being in a blind alley.

The job of the Spanish negotiators, well aware of British and German opposition to continued financing of the

EEC's agricultural surpluses, is not made any easier by Spain's expected record agricultural output this year and record surpluses of wine and olive oil.

"Let the French block our negotiations: if they think with this we are going to back down they are mistaken", a senior Spanish negotiator remarked.

Señor Morán saw Señor Manuel Fraga, the opposition leader, who has also condemned French tactics, before leaving for Brussels.

Señor Carlos Romero, Spain's Agriculture Minister, faces an olive harvest of almost 600,000 tonnes this year, against 253,000 last year. He has announced that 50,000m pesetas (more than £230m) will have to be spent to buy up the surplus of an expected 30 million hectolitre wine harvest, some 15 million more than last year.

## Successful solar panel test by space shuttle

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The United States has moved a stage closer to achieving its stated aim of having a permanent station in space orbit before the end of this century.

The space shuttle *Discovery*'s successful testing of a solar panel which extended about 100ft above the craft.

The device consisted of a 13in-wide mast covered with small solar panels which was raised above the shuttle like an elongated rectangular sail.

Most of the panels were dummies but the outermost ones contained three working cells for converting sunlight into energy. The 36m (£4.6m) test project was seen as a first step in developing lightweight structures that can be used in an orbital construction site for a permanent space station.

President Reagan has said the

next aim of the United States space programme should be to have a manned space station in orbit during the 1990s.

The initial testing of the solar mast was completely successful. The space astronauts have also successfully deployed three communications satellites during the maiden voyage.

The success of these tests compensated for the series of mishaps which delayed the launch of the *Discovery* by more than two months. In a telephone conversation with President Reagan, Commander Henry Hartsfield, the mission chief, remarked: "This is such a tremendous ride you ought to try it sometime yourself." "You mind if I think that one over?" the President responded.

The *Discovery* is due to return to earth tomorrow.



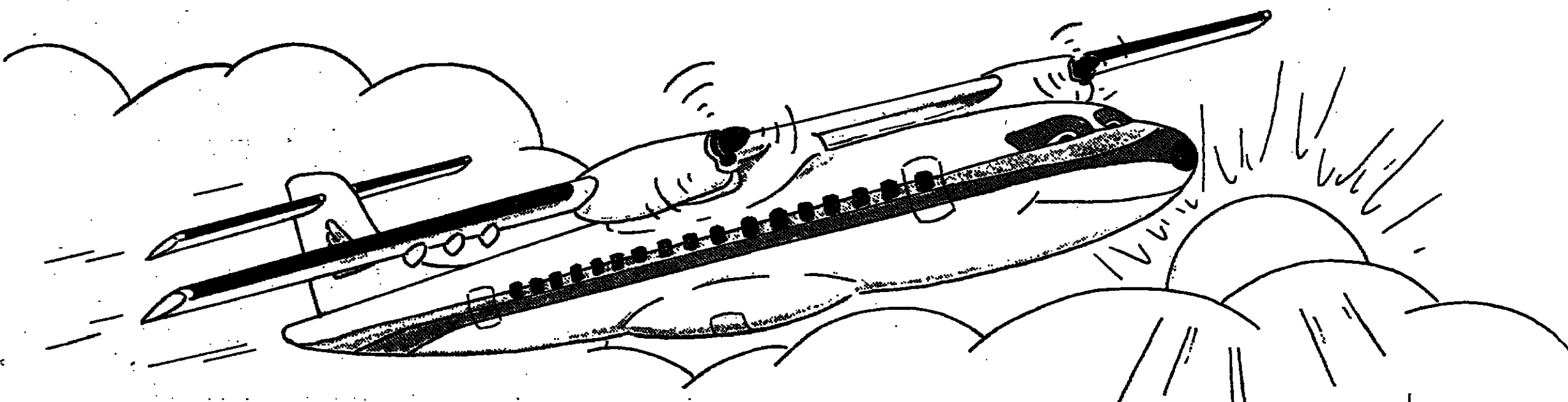
aerospatiale

and



AERITALIA

are my parents



My Name Is The ATR 42

I Flew For The First Time On August 16, 1984.  
I'll Be The Regional Airlines Best Friend!



The Star Wars debate

# Chernenko interview in Pravda fails to dispel health rumours

From Richard Owen, Moscow

President Chernenko's interview in *Pravda* yesterday, attacking the Reagan Administration over the "star wars" talks, has done nothing to dispel the mystery surrounding the Soviet leader's whereabouts and state of health.

"We have been through this before," one western observer said - a reference to the fact that President Andropov also gave written answers to *Pravda* during his six-month illness and absence from public life.

Mr Chernenko, who turns 73 this month, has not been seen for nearly two months. He went to the Crimea on holiday in mid-July after talks with Senor Javier de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, but his return to the capital has still not been announced, a departure from established custom.

According to some reports, Mr Chernenko is seriously ill and was admitted to a Moscow hospital last month.

On Saturday, *Pravda*, carried an account of a session in the Kremlin of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, of which Mr Chernenko is chairman. The newspaper said the Presidium had discussed his ideas on the "authority of rural Soviets" but did not indicate that he had been present. A similar technique has been used in Tass reports of the last two Politburo meetings.

A telegram was sent to the

saying that if America and Russia did reach agreement on "star wars" issues in Vienna this month, this would "facilitate the solution of questions of limiting and reducing other strategic armaments. I would particularly like to emphasize that."

Diplomats see this as a hint that if the United States agrees to confine the Vienna agenda to space weapons, Russia will then resume the Geneva Start (strategic arms reduction) talks.

President Chernenko's tone was bleak. He said the Republic in stark contrast to the surprise, even consternation, shown not only by Morocco's neighbours but also by King Hassan's closest allies, the United States and France.

The massive approval given by Moroccans in a referendum to their country's alliance with Libya is in stark contrast to the surprise, even consternation, shown not only by Morocco's neighbours but also by King Hassan's closest allies, the United States and France.

## Reagan well ahead in opinion polls as campaign opens

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Today is Labour Day in America, a time when Americans end their summer holidays and return to their offices, factories and classrooms for another year's hard work.

Every four years Labour Day also formally marks the beginning of the presidential election campaign, a time when presidential and vice-presidential candidates set out on a series of barnstorming tours around the country in the hope of winning enough votes to spend the next four years in the White House.

This year both parties' candidates have made premature starts to their campaigns but, recognizing the symbolism of the Labour Day kickoff, President Reagan and Mr Walter Mondale, his Democratic challenger, are planning to begin their campaigns in traditional style with a rapid sweep across the country.

Mr Reagan is beginning in his home state of California in the town of Anaheim, the home of Disneyland and one of the most conservative voting groups in the country.

He then goes on to make addresses in Salt Lake City and Chicago before returning to Washington in the latter part of the week.

The three speeches he will make on this tour will focus on the three main themes of his campaign - his stewardship of traditional American values, his strengthening of American

## Flowers put two Poles back in jail

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The Polish authorities have signalled how they will cope with the most determined and vociferous leaders of the banned Solidarity trade union by arresting and promptly sentencing two recently-freed organisers of the underground opposition to General Jaruzelski's Government.

Since the Polish Government announced an amnesty for political prisoners in July, the fate of Solidarity leaders who try to revive the opposition has been in doubt. The amnesty prompted President Reagan to lift some economic sanctions against Poland, but there was concern in the West that the prison cells would promptly be filled again with activists reluctant to abandon their protests.

Two leaders of the Solidarity underground in Wroclaw, Mr Wladyslaw Frasyniuk and Mr Josef Pinior, attempted as part of union protests throughout the country to lay flowers at a plaque commemorating the registration of the union. The police detained them and their wives and by the evening had charged the men with attempting to disturb the peace and sentenced them to two months' jail.

The amnesty has a number of strings. One is that if a freed political prisoner is caught committing a "similar" offence he is liable to immediate arrest and will have to serve out the former sentence as well as the new jail term. It appears that the authorities will not use such heavy means against Mr Frasyniuk and Mr Pinior, though their friends say that two months is a harsh enough sentence for laying flowers.

"It seems that they will have a tight-leash policy from now on," a prominent Solidarity organizer said at the weekend. So far the Solidarity leaders Mr Seweryn Jaworski, Mr Jan Rulawski, Mr Frasyniuk and Mr Pinior have been formally warned by the police about their public statements.

The Libya-Morocco union



Face in the crowd: Colonel Gaddafi's portrait dominates Libya's celebrations of the fifteenth anniversary of the overthrow of the monarchy at the weekend. After the parade of mainly Soviet military equipment Colonel Gaddafi vowed to liberate Palestine and praised King Hassan of Morocco for his country's union with Libya.

## Hassan's allies startled by pact

From Godfrey Morrison, Rabat

The massive approval given by Moroccans in a referendum to their country's alliance with Libya is in stark contrast to the surprise, even consternation, shown not only by Morocco's neighbours but also by King Hassan's closest allies, the United States and France.

The treaty of "union" signed by the pro-Western King on August 13 with Washington's *Bleu noir* in Africa and the Arab world, Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, envisages a loose federation but it is a meaty affair. Not only does it entail close economic and political cooperation but it amounts to a mutual defence pact. One article says specifically that aggression against either party will be considered as aggression against the other.

This is one important reason

why news of the alliance brought both President Francois Mitterrand of France and General Vernon Walters, President Reagan's special roving envoy, hurrying to Morocco on what they hoped would be secret missions, to find out just what King Hassan was up to.

For the French the military aspect of the Libya-Morocco union is a potentially serious development. For more than a year they have had more than 3,000 troops stationed in Chad defending its Government against Libyan-backed rebels, and a direct confrontation between France and Libya cannot be ruled out. But how Libya is formally allied with Morocco, a traditional friend of France and an important trading partner.

However, the French almost certainly see not only danger in the Libya-Moroccan pact. But an opportunity. Like other Western countries they see a prospect of King Hassan, who has an impressive record as an astute diplomat, exercising a restraining influence on Colonel Gaddafi, and perhaps using his good offices to start a Libyan-French dialogue which could allow France to withdraw

## Silence over visit by Mitterrand

French and Moroccan sources maintained a total silence yesterday concerning President Mitterrand's second visit to Morocco in less than a week.

Colonel Gaddafi could hardly find a better introduction to this world than King Hassan, who has the successful chairman of both the last Arab summit and the most recent meeting of Islamic heads of state.

It is also a diplomatic coup for King Hassan, who has brought over to his side the former generous paymaster of the Polisario guerrillas, who have fought Moroccan troops for eight years for control of the Western Sahara.

The big question being asked throughout the Maghreb region, in particular by the Tunisians, who have always sought to maintain good relations with their larger neighbour, is: Will the Hassan-Gaddafi marriage last?

Colonel Gaddafi has a long history of failed "unions". But the most surprising aspect of the latest marriage is that it was King Hassan rather than Colonel Gaddafi who popped the question. As the King told his people before they went to vote, Colonel Gaddafi "was surprised, even dumbfounded".

At the very least the Moroccan monarch has shown once again his capacity to confound friend and foe alike.

## Key role for reprieved killer MP

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

A man who was sentenced to death in his youth for the murder of his Irish girlfriend is among a handful of MPs who hold the balance of power in the Indian chamber of South Africa's new multi-racial parliament, which meets for the first time tomorrow.

Mr Narantuk Juma, now in his mid-40s, choked 16-year-old Hazel Mullen, to death more than 20 years ago when he was a medical student in Dublin. He then dismembered the body with a butcher's cleaver and hid the pieces.

He maintained he had done the deed in a fit of jealousy when his girlfriend told him she had been unfaithful, and that he then panicked and tried to conceal the evidence of his crime. He was tried and given a death sentence.

After a successful appeal and retrial however, the verdict was changed to manslaughter.

A model prisoner, Mr Juma was released after less than four years and returned to South Africa.

A happily married man with three children, Mr Juma, who was known in his Dublin days as Simon Mangan, was the Natal North Coast seat for the National People's Party (NPP) in the Indian elections.

Dr Essop Jassat and Mr Ram Saloojee are President and Vice-President respectively of the Transvaal Indian Congress, and not of the Natal Indian Congress, as suggested in our August 28 report.

## Fahd appeals for unity after pilgrims' protest

Mecca (Reuters) - King Fahd of Saudi Arabia appealed for peace among Islamic nations after demonstrations here by pilgrims.

This followed an earlier appeal for calm by Libya's Colonel Gaddafi. King Fahd said Lebanon, Iran and Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan were all victims of hostilities instigated by Muslim quarrelling.

"The sons of the Islamic nation have long been at war with one another," he said. "War has taken a heavy toll and casualties are in the hundreds of thousands, and all the victims are our brothers in Islam."

## Papandreou rounds on old enemy

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, the Cretan liberal who has been elected leader of New Democracy, the conservative main opposition party, was yesterday the target of an unusually fierce personal attack by Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Prime Minister and an old enemy.

Speaking in Salonika, northern Greece, Mr Papandreou said: "By electing a traitor for leader, the parliamentary group of New Democracy gave proof of how degenerate it is."

He used the name Epithetes for traitor, after the man who betrayed an unguarded pass to the Persians at Thermopylae in 480BC. He was referring to the defection of Mr Mitsotakis and others from the Centre Union Party in 1965 which caused the downfall of the late George Papandreou's Government.

Mr Papandreou said Mr Mitsotakis was the tool of big monopolies, who had been made leader to prepare for a sell-out of Greek sovereign rights to Turkey. "But treason shall not pass. The people and the armed forces are on the look-out."

Mr Mitsotakis rose to the leadership of New Democracy six years after joining its ranks. He pledged to return the party to power within 12 months.

Whether he can fulfil this ambition depends on how much time he needs to reorganize the party, restore its self-confidence, and enhance its appeal to moderate voters who are likely to tip the scales in the next election.

He will be 66 next month and was elected chairman of the party on Saturday, with 70 votes against 41 cast for his only opponent, Mr Constantine Stefanopoulos.

## Argentine leader faces showdown with unions

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

Another showdown between President Raul Alfonsín's nine-month-old Administration in Argentina and the Peronist-dominated unions became inevitable over the weekend when efforts by the Catholic Church failed to avert a 24-hour general strike today.

The General Confederation of Labour (CGT) called the strike after the Government refused to meet its wage demands, but Administration officials have accused the union leaders of "political motives" for the stoppage.

Senor Juan Manuel Casella, the Labour Minister, said yesterday that the strike would be "a tie" between the Government and the unions and predicted that 50 per cent of workers would go to work.

Many Argentines feel that a general strike so soon after their country has shed the yoke of military rule could endanger the still fragile democratic system.

The general strike is the third big confrontation between



President Alfonsín: Third confrontation

## Vietnam prisoners hope

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

The Reagan Administration is to decide within the next few days, whether to accept a long-standing Vietnamese offer to free thousands of Vietnamese political prisoners being held in "re-education camps" and allow them to settle in the US.

According to *The New York Times*, details of the US approach are being finalized

## Chiefs punished for Israel trip

From Eddie Iroh, Lagos

Alhaji Ado Bayero, the Emir of Kano, have been confined to their domains for six months. Their passports were also declared invalid and confiscated by the Nigerian Security Organization.

A fortnight ago, the External Affairs Minister, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, expressed Nigeria's

## Britain's South Africa stance condemned

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

British policy towards South Africa is condemned today by the Anti-Apartheid movement (AAM), whose leaders are seeking an urgent meeting with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary.

They make clear in a statement that they see Britain's abstention from the recent UN Security Council resolution denouncing the elections in Pretoria as the latest in a line of controversial decisions which have been over-sympathetic to the Nationalist Government.

The statement rejecting Mr P. W. Botha's new constitution, which comes into force today, will be no great surprise to the South African Premier, but it unequivocal criticism could just disappoint the British

## Date named for UN chief's Cyprus meeting

From Zoriana Pyzarski, New York

Senor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General, will hold a round of proximity talks next Monday in New York with President Spyros Kyprianou of Cyprus and Mr Rauf Denktaş, the leader of the Turkish Cypriot community, in the latest move of a new initiative to break the Cyprus impasse.

## De la Madrid vows debt will be paid

From Bruno Lopez, Mexico City

Paris, the steering committee representing the creditor banks is close to agreement on what is thought to be the largest debt negotiation in history.

Senor de la Madrid said "an irresponsible attitude towards international credit would do serious harm to our country".

His address, a broadcast nationwide on radio and television, aimed to convince Mexicans that their country was "beginning to see light at the

## Chile's two protest days against Pinochet

Santiago - Chile's political parties have decided to go ahead with mass demonstrations against General Pinochet's regime this week despite repeated government threats of severe measures (Our Correspondent writes).

Two days of action are planned for tomorrow and Wednesday, when it is hoped to bring the country to a standstill to force the Pinochet government to resign.

The politicians are angered by General Pinochet's announcement that he intends to continue indefinitely in power, thus going back on previous promises to establish democracy.

## Mao's portrait back in place

Peking (Reuters) - A large portrait of China's late leader, Mao Tse-tung, has been put up again on the Gate of Heavenly Peace in Tien Anmen Square, ending months of speculation on the picture's fate. (The picture, showing Mao, the "Great Helmsman", half smiling, pre-dates the Cultural Revolution of 1966/7. It reappears in time for next month's national day celebrations.

## Healing music

Bangkok (AP) - Zubin Mehta, the Indian-born conductor of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, banned from Malaysia because of the "Jewish theme" of some of its repertoire, said here he would not cancel performances for any political reasons. Music can heal political wounds he said.

## Budd film off

Durban (Reuters) - Plans for a film about the Olympic athlete, Zola Budd, have been dropped because the producers, Anant Singh, cannot spend more than 72 hours in the Orange Free State where she was born, the *Sunday Tribune* reported. Under the apartheid laws, Mr Singh, of Indian descent, needs a special permit.

## Jet 'leaking'

Yaoundé (Reuters) - A third person has died from injuries received when a Cameroon Airlines Boeing 737 caught fire last Thursday while taxiing to takeoff at Douala international airport, Yaoundé radio said. Just before the blast another pilot had spotted fuel leaking from the jet, the radio added.

## 99% winner

Bujumbura (Reuters) - President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza of Burundi, has been overwhelmingly re-elected for a second five-year term at weekend polls in which he was the only candidate. He won 99.63 per cent of the 1.7 million votes cast.

## Licensed killer

Tidaholm (AFP) - Police hunting a wolf which killed 10 sheep and injured 12 others so severely they had to be destroyed took photographs of the animal but could not kill it because under Swedish law it is a protected beast.

## Swazi upset

Mbabane (AFP) - Swaziland's deputy head of state, Prince Siso Dlamini has been suspended from his post, the country's supreme council of state, the Likoqo, announced. He was accused of trying to wrest "powers of signature" from Queen Regent Ntombi.

## Barbie ailing

St Denis La Réunion (AFP) - Klaus Barbie, the former Gestapo chief and so-called "Butcher of Lyons", is very ill and receiving little treatment in his French prison, his lawyer was reported as saying.

## Dali fed

Madrid - Three doctors in a Barcelona clinic attending Salvador Dali, the 80-year-old Catalan painter who suffered burns in a bedroom blaze last week, began administering tube-feeding because of his "chronic malnutrition".

## Jelly jam

Miami (Reuters) - A huge armada of Atlantic jellyfish has put the St Lucie nuclear power station out of action by clogging up its cooling system.

150 من الاصل



## THE ARTS

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL: Dance  
European imports  
fill the bill

The times are long past when the Edinburgh Festival could afford to present three major dance companies, each for a full week of eight performances. This year's quota in the official programmes was confined to eight days, divided between the second and third weeks; but that did take in three companies and, with matinees and some overlapping, added up to a dozen performances altogether, almost fully sold out.

Over the years, a policy of choosing unfamiliar productions to import has generally worked much better than the occasions when a new work was commissioned, and so it proved this year. True, the company from Thailand proved disappointing, most of its programme looking like a glossy touristic catchpenny, but the ballet companies from East Berlin and Paris were well worth bringing.

Tom Schilling's rethinking of *Swan Lake* for the Komische Oper Dance Theatre met rough handling from some critics who were apparently under the illusion that British productions are faithful to the pure tradition of *Swan Lake* as laid down by Petipa and Ivanov. Since that is manifestly untrue nowadays, I found Schilling's intentions justified and interesting, and, although Schilling's choreography is not a patch on Peter Darrell's similar effort a few years back for Scottish Ballet, his production ideas, the look and drama of the piece, are stimulating.

Rudolf Nureyev's *commedia dell'arte* programme for the Ballet of the Paris Opéra was wholeheartedly successful, especially the evocation of an eighteenth-century style in *Harlequin, Magician through Love*. The plot may be naive in its piling of one adventure upon another but the presentation is subtle and witty. You could say almost the same of Balanchine's *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* also in this programme, and both of them give marvelous opportunities for dance comedy, enthusiastically seized by Nureyev and Patrick Dupond, who alternated roles. Dupond is a brilliant dancer, but Nureyev's performances are more enjoyable because he plays more to the rest of the cast.

The programme, completed by a more than somewhat underproduced *Carnaval*, inevitably showed only one side of the company's work, omitting on the one hand their ability for grand-scale classical display and on the other the avant-garde experimentation, which next season will take Michael Clark, the 22-year-old wunderkind of the British new wave, to Paris to create a work for them. (How long before the Royal Ballet plucks up the courage to do likewise?)

Clark's own programme at the Assembly Rooms was the big dance hit of the Fringe Festival. He has polished it since the premiere at Riverside a month ago, and his dancers perform it to bring out every emotion and choreographic nuance of *Do You Me? I Did* and all the fun as well as the challenge of *New Puritans*. There is not a company in Britain today offering a more stimulating - or entertaining - evening of new dance.

However, one of Clark's dancers, Matthew Hawkins, had some interesting work of his own to show in a collaboration with Ann Dickie, *Lurching Darts*, shown at lunchtimes at Bedford Centre. The darts in question were presumably the sudden lunges of fast movement Hawkins made between his beautifully sustained adagio movement in a *mélange* that included anti-sexist cross-dressing, bird masks and gestures, tea-garden trelliswork and a ballet parody by Dickie, hopping in a crinoline to a musical-box tinkles.

Hawkins is a dancer of impressive control and strong personality, a long tough body and a crazy face. He and Clark, with their two colleagues in Clark's company, Ellen van Schuylenburgh and Julie Hood, have brought a welcome breath of daring and professionalism to what has been hitherto the altogether too cosy and amateurish world of post-modern dance in Britain.

You would need to spend longer in Edinburgh than I did, and exercise courage as well as stamina, to visit all the Fringe dance activities. Those who saw things I missed assured me that my loss was not great. Of the shows I did get to, a cocktail hour performance by two Spaniards, Cesc Gelabert and Lydia Azzopardi, was enjoyable. Their



Rudolf Nureyev, the brightest star of this year's dance, in his *commedia dell'arte* programme

choreography (one piece, *Alhambra*, by him, the other, *Five to Two*, by her, to music respectively of Carlos Santos and Mauricio Villavechia) was curious, with some eccentric movements, but both dance with an attractive simplicity and involvement.

Dance also turned up in unlikely places. Some masked dancers from Japan performed in Princes Street Gardens under official festival auspices; well reputed, they come this week to the Bloomsbury Theatre. Franz Kline's abstract portrait of Merce Cunningham dominated the entrance to the Smithsonian Exhibition of American treasures, and I suppose the decision of the Playhouse management to paint the corridors during the ballet season could almost count as performance art. Never a dull moment.

John Percival

## Theatre

## Eerie spectacular

Scenes from Faust  
King's

The Berliner Ensemble's production of Goethe's *Faust* could scarcely have presented more of an antithesis to the quiet clarity of their *Galileo* seen earlier in the week. *Faust* was a production with a Gothic superabundance of effect and fantasy.

Choosing to play the fragmentary *Urfaust*, Goethe's first transcript of the work that was to become his *Faust*, has presented the Berliner Ensemble with many obstacles to surmount. The *Urfaust* (so named upon its discovery) was written during the 1770s when Goethe was still in part influenced by the "Sturm und Drang" movement. At this stage very little of the *Faust* story which we are familiar with had been incorporated in his interpretation; Faust's initial yearning for experience once expressed, and his pact with Mephisto made (although not explained), Goethe goes on to explore the Gretchen tragedy, a familiar theme to the era in which he was writing, without effecting a satisfactory connection between the tale of betrayed love and the *Faust* story proper.

The Berliner Ensemble have respected this problem. In place of the Prologue in Heaven that precedes the completed version of *Faust*, playing Faust's ultimate salvation in context, they have incorporated their own prologue put together from extracts of work by Goethe contemporaneous with *Urfaust*. These they have chosen to fit the interpretation of Gretchen's inevitable tragedy.

Against the weirdly fantastical background of a gloom like buildings, glimmering lanterns and a cosmos of overbright stars that retract and advance, Prometheus delivers his defiant speech of individuality and freedom, then is

rustled off by a group of sinister half-formed beings and angels that are henceforth ever-present. These awful, silent, precarious creatures with half-plucked wings hover over the rest of the play, suggesting the proximity of the other world and the inevitability of Faust's fate. His opening speech is shrouded by their presence, which diminishes it - human endeavour and aspirations have little place against them. This is true throughout the play. Faust is listless; he appears to have no soul to stretch and no room in which to stretch it.

This perhaps overcomes the problem of having to make a coherent character of the two aspects of Faust presented in the *Urfaust*: a Faust who yearns for experience and the Faust who betrays the innocent Gretchen. It also, however, loses our sympathy. Faust's invocation of the earth spirit seems almost illogical; his involvement with nature only proves him the slave of his own desires.

There are certainly some fine and remarkable uses of effect; the church in which Gretchen takes refuge, having slaughtered her illegitimate child, is a spindly, translucent, fairy palace that shifts in the wind, mocking her pleas for forgiveness. Gretchen, played by Corinna Harfouch, has a credible and pathetic innocence whose appeal is offset by Faust's coldness.

Equally memorable is the spectacle of Faust (Hermann Beyer) and Mephisto riding on giant black horses through a sky of shifting stars. Mephisto, played by Arno Wyzniewski, is less a mischievous, quicksilver spirit than a quietly cynical and utterly powerful figure. He is all-pervading, grotesquely threatening, with the hair and wings of a Fra Angelico angel and a black cavalier's suit. Eerie and spectacular as this production may be, its nightmarish quality perhaps swamps all else.

Sarah Hemming

## Television

Soap-suds  
of sin

There is nothing, or so it seems to be believed, that the public want more than "a mammoth family saga of poverty, greed, passion, wealth and corruption", especially as the nights draw in. After the first two-and-a-quarter hours of Sidney Sheldon's *Master of the Game* on BBC1 last night, it was apparent that the above claim could in no way be an offence under the Trade Descriptions Act.

Nobody in this first instalment - the eight hour series continues tonight and concludes next Sunday - is slothful. That apart, the other deadly sins are there, with variations.

Dyan Cannon is the star. We saw her first aged 90; tonight she will be 18, at her birthday party in Maine. People were being fulsome but the old lady was thinking along the lines of "If they only knew..." Well, that is for you to choose, but she has a cupboard big enough for a graveyard of skeletons.

The first we saw was fleshed as Jamie McGrouder (Ian Charleson), founder of the fortune, clawing his way up in the South African diamond fields, being swindled by our own dear Donald Pleasence, on whom he exacts a revenge by way of his daughter, played by Cherie Lunghi.

Miss Lunghi had a rotten time: left to have Jamie's baby in a brothel with Daddy having shot himself and Jamie away with the bowdler. But she had fortitude and finally coupled with him on the carpet of his mansion after a good old fist-fight. Miss Lunghi played through these vicissitudes with incredible calm, though it may have been bemusement.

The early scenes were very much out of *Wilde World*, and the soap bubbles rose as Jamie struck it rich. Tonight they will flood the screen. Jamie is so there. He popped off with a stroke. Maybe he should have been slothful.

J. B. Priestley was celebrated three times over the weekend: last night from Central in an affectionate family remembrance by his son Tom, on BBC1 in *An Inspector Calls*, and on Saturday in a wide-ranging appraisal on BBC2 presented by Robert Robinson. Postscript: J. B. Priestley Remembered.

This last was a somewhat ragged affair, though there were some gems. The contributors included Priestley's widow (Jacqueline Hawkes), Michael Foot, A. J. P. Taylor, Malcolm Muggeridge, Malcolm Bradbury, Angus Wilson, Beryl Bainbridge, Gareth Lloyd Evans, and Priestley's publisher at Heinemann, A. S. Freer.

Mr Foot and Professor Taylor recalled his political contribution, the former remarking on his intuition about what people were thinking and the latter recalling Priestley's intention to drive the "nuclear madmen" from power just as he had been instrumental in bringing in the postwar Labour Government. Mr Muggeridge thought him not the least bit of a revolutionary: he had wanted to live in a class-dominated society so that he could complain about it.

Mr Priestley, seen in film clips, was the most entertaining, describing his technique of choosing names for his characters from the A. A. book, defining the professional writer as one who writes when he does not want to, and giving his recipe for living, "by admiration, hope and love".

Yesterday afternoon's *The Elastic Church*, from Channel 4, failed to provide a kindly light amidst the encircling gloom of the curatorial debate in the Church of England. Too many talking heads justified the title but obscured the trends.

Dennis Hackett

## Opera

## Biting originality

Turandot  
Covent Garden

Last winter Franco Zeffirelli presented *La Scala* with a *Turandot* that had more than a touch of Hollywood: a Pearl S. Buck spectacular with pagoda shimmering in the moonlight. Such an option was hardly available to Covent Garden when they opened their new *Turandot* in Los Angeles in July; Hollywood should not be given back its own. So André Serban went to the other extreme and staged Puccini's final opera as a morality - or rather, as it turns out, an immorality - tale, played before the people. It is now at Covent Garden to begin the 1984-85 season.

The populace of Peking are ranged at the back of the stage on the tiers of a mighty temple, whose doors open to reveal the rising of the moon or yet another instrument of torture. Peking in Serban's eyes, as Paul Griffiths reported - from America after the first night, is a city of implacable cruelty. It is also one of exotic ritual entertainment, presided over by Ping, Pang and Pong as acrobatic masters of ceremony in their garish costumes who call up at will a hundred persuasions, from dancing girls to masks of severed heads.

Serban keeps his real audience at a decent Brechtian distance - indeed, a stranger wandering into Covent Garden might be forgiven for thinking

that he had stumbled across a performance of *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* rather than Puccini. And he is right to do so because the tale he has to stage is an unpleasant one: the price of love is death and the point is clearly made as Liù's catalogue is wheeled across the front of the stage while Turandot and Calaf sing of their ecstasies. The Serban view, with that of his designer Sally Jacobs, is clear, cogent and totally original.

There is equal clarity in Sir Colin Davis's masterly account of the score. Few opera composers were better orchestrators than Puccini, and Davis proves this in practically every bar, bringing out the full exoticism of Puccini's Chinese expedition as well as his sensuously caressing lines. The sharp blade and the velvet touch stand side by side.

Alas, vocal matters are not on this high plane. Plácido Domingo as usual gave his all, but the voice on the opening night sounded under strain and the thick orchestral texture often too much of a barrier. It could be, though, that Calaf is no longer an ideal part for him on stage and he sings only one more performance here - that tomorrow night. Gwyneth Jones's Turandot is fearless, a creature of scarcely repressed passions, symbolized by the flame-coloured dress of Act II; the vocal qualities may be uneven, but the attack is all there. Hecate Donath's Liù, much applauded by the audience, is a disappointment, pallid in voice and performance, and Gwyneth Howell - another newcomer to the cast since Los Angeles - makes a surprisingly tentative Timur.

The use of acrobat-ministers is weakly led by William Workman; their vocal gymnastics are not on a level with their physical ones.

*Turandot* goes through several cast changes as the month progresses. Serban and Davis between them have created a showcase exotic enough to accommodate them all.

John Higgins



Plácido Domingo giving his all in *Turandot* - though the voice sounded under strain

Oberto  
Radio 3

Never before has there been such an abundance of fuel for the fire of Verdi-mania. Julian Budden's kaleidoscopic trilogy was followed by the recently published interviews and commentaries with the composer, and now the BBC is in the act. From now until February a weekly Saturday afternoon series on Radio 3 will be broadcasting in chronological order all the operas of the man who carried the musical, social and political history of the entire nineteenth century along with him.

Julian Budden's lucid interval talks put things in context and present the evidence for inevitable nagging questions like whether *Oberto*, *Come al San Bonifacio*, which we heard on Saturday, was really the first opera. Those who saw University College Opera's British stage premiere of *Oberto* two years ago at the Camden Festival will remember the weak plot of betrayed love and paternal revenge and the strong, if erratic, responses of the 26-year-old composer.

Listening on the radio, of course, the ear is less selective, the imagination less fettered. The passages of conscientious time-serving become more of an endurance test; but when coup begins to fall upon coup in Act II, and when Verdi is suddenly turned on by the potential of

human interaction in ensemble and quartet, the score even benefits from the absence of the limiting specificity of visual production.

The set-pieces stand out the more nakedly, of course, and need to be all the better sung and played. While the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and Chorus under John Matheson realized the crude but effective dramatic timing with an appropriately raw vigour, some of the solo work in this studio production was less happy. The central paternal role of Oberto needs stronger advocacy than Malcolm King's grainy, only fitfully resolved bass was able to give it. Rowland Sidwell's tenor, too, was sometimes strained by the already taxing writing for Riccardo, the rake.

Kathleen Kuhlmann as Cuniza, the innocent rival, did what she could with an insufficiently delineated character; and Linda Finnie was well cast as Leonora, betrayed lover and tormented daughter. Whether in duet with her father, or in her final scene of deranged grief, her soprano integrated affectingly fierce resolve and vulnerability. And Leonora, of course, is a prophetic name. In her music and in the sudden rush and influx of inventive engagement in the ensembles, Verdi's momentum is already well under way. It should be an addictive series.

Hilary Finch

E. J. Craddock's Publishing column has been held over for lack of space.

## Concerts

## 'Eroica' in its proper place

BBCSO/Wand  
Albert Hall/Radio 3

By coincidence, on the morning of this concert I heard the opening of Günter Wand's recent recording performance of Brahms's First Symphony on the radio. Much faster than is customary today, but nevertheless strong and penetrating, those few bars spoke volumes about the integrity of this still underrated conductor. For Wand, however individualistic his results, consideration of the music always comes first, his own ego last. That much was abundantly evident in his translucent, sparkling account of Schubert's Third Symphony which began his Prom.

BBCPO/Downes  
Albert Hall/Radio 3

Such varied day-dreams went to the making of Friday night's Promenade concert that keeping an attentive ear needed an effort of will while sharing the dreams in the music. Fortunately Edward Downes maintained a balance between sense and sensuality in his conducting of the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra from Manchester, and ensured the performances were alert to purely musical niceties as well as the flights of romantic imagination.

Nobuko Imai went dreaming along with Berlioz as the viola soloist in *Harold in Italy*, impeccable in her tonal confidence if not always conveying the questing Byronic character of her music. Her warmth of

feeling and phrasing nevertheless went in eloquent counterpoint to the orchestral playing, the conductor being disposed neither to linger unduly nor to exaggerate any of the instrumental effects.

Possibly an extra desk or two of strings would have helped to intensify the music's initial sense of storm and stress, but the wind instruments were heard to telling effect both in the "Pilgrims' March" and in a lilting account of the "Mountain Serenade". The final *Orgy of Brigrands*, however, sounded uncommonly convivial, rather than the frenzied rout the music implies, as if brigandage had become sociable.

More exotic dreams were voiced by Jill Gomez as she sighed through the Orient of Ravel's imagination in *Scheherazade*, the hint of darker desires and voluptuous yearning imparting a richness of texture to the blend of voice and orchestra. Not all the words came clearly across, but perhaps radio listeners had the advantage in this respect. Such songs seem better suited to more intimate surroundings if subtlety of inflection is not to become too diffused.

At least Mr Downes kept the poet's dreams from being submerged, as he also did the wealth of instrumental detail in the pictorial allusions of Debussy's *Nocturnes*. After making perspective the prime quality in "Nuages" and "Fêtes", the BBC Singers added their flight of vocal fancy to *Sirènes*, while in *Après-midi d'un faune* at the start of the programme the flautist surely deserved naming for his skill as well as being summoned to take a bow.

Noël Goodwin

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## SPECTRUM

# 2024: Life after a KGB peace pact

Forty years from now, history will be read on

computer terminal screens. Futurologist

Norman Macrae projects the story which will be

read next century. In the first of a

three-part series, he speculates on superpower

rivalries in the last quarter of the twentieth century.

For most of the second half of the twentieth century it seemed more than 50 per cent likely that the world would blow itself up. After the achievement of nuclear fission in 1945, scientists could soon count how many hydrogen bombs or atomic bombs would be required to destroy the planet.

Our grandfathers at this period were strangely allowing themselves to be bossed around by three sorts of excessive government, misleadingly called the "rich democracies", the "communist powers", and (somewhat contemptuously) the "Third World". Each was in a dangerously unstable state.

In the rich democracies, this was the age of limited-channel television which was very different from the free-as-air telecommunicating computer terminals (TCs) of our time. Under that limited-channel television, for the first time since the days of Pericles, democratic elections could regularly see and hear in their own living rooms those whom they were asked to vote for. Democracy thereby became a system of picking men with the characteristics of good television actors - that is, prima donnas skilled in dissembling - and then putting them into the kind of antagonistic work environment which would turn a poodle into a paranoiac (listen to the tapes we still have of the daily, shouted question times in the British House of Commons).

The rulers who emerged through this system were then allowed, amid an atmosphere of power and egomania (but also occasional, appallingly unjust personal slander), to spend half their peoples' money for them, until somebody heard some tape of what they had been saying casually to their own staffs in private, when there arose a great clamour to put them in prison instead.

And this was the most civilized of the three contemporary systems of over-government. In 1984 it applied to about 40 of the 165 governments of the world. In most of the 125 non-democratic countries the head of government went to bed each night in some way afraid that he might be killed together with his family in a coup d'état before breakfast tomorrow morning. This did not lead to a relaxed frame of mind in what was to become the nuclear trigger-minders' profession.

The first nuclear power among what might be called the coup d'état-terrified states was communist Russia. It was thus the first power that looked as if its system of neurotic over-government might destroy mankind. It was also the first to

disappear, and it is interesting to see how this came about.

The Soviet Union's main destabilizers were the growing sophistication of East Europeans, the lack of market mechanism in communism, and the lower birth rate of Europeans than of Asian Russians from the late 1960s on. Since under communism there was no direct link between increased demand for anything and increased production of it, particular shortages always appeared of the things that were most especially wanted. Higher supplies of these scarce things were then divided into the special shops from which only the privileged were allowed to buy. This increased both infuriation and queueing for ordinary Ivan.

When a second wave of Solidarity-type revolts spread across East Europe in 1988, neither local nor European Russian troops were willing to



enforce martial law to put them down. Soviet conscript soldiers had been happy to crush the Prague spring in 1968, which they regarded as a rising of dissident middle-class wets. But by 1988 a lot of young, poor, white, rather racist European Russians resented being called up to be bossed around by the many 25-year-old Asian Russian corporals, whom the European conscripts regarded as the uppity elder brothers of the drug-pushing, teenaged Asian muggers then flocking into Moscow (because teenaged girls were being locked away from any sexual promiscuity in their suddenly more religious Soviet ex-Muslim areas back home).

In 1988, European Russian conscripts refused an Uzbek sergeant's order to fire on violently striking Polish coal miners, especially as coal strikes were now starting in European Russia itself. Some mutinous soldiers fraternized with the Poles. Reports from commanding officers spread panic among the 1 per cent of priviledgia who ran the Soviet Union: "Some soldiers now eager to help overthrow the Polish socialist regime rather than protect it - danger of soldiers shooting their officers and bringing back guns to Mother Russia to murder the local priviledgia in their scattered home towns as in the Tsars' 1917."

President Chernenko had been a feeble old man when he acceded in 1984, and by 1988 he was a feeble and older one. A

struggle for power rumbled over his deathbed between the scared party bumbledom (with some army generals' support) and the more intelligent KGB. The bumbledom said: "This threat of counter-revolution springs from subversion by the United States. We should take the initiative in shifting the areas of conflict thousands of miles beyond the state borders of the Soviet Union, stirring coups and revolutions in Central America, the Caribbean, the Gulf..." This will excite Western fears of nuclear war. The Americans will certainly run away from that, and the Solidarity counter-revolutionaries will realize that the West will always abjectly surrender allies to their fate."

The KGB had for some years been the public service through which intelligent and calculating Russians could best advance to influence, rather like the pre-1960 administrative class of the British civil service. It was from the KGB's deputy-head that America's President Bush, early in 1989, received the Borovsky letter.

"It would be absurd to mark this as merely 'confidential'," wrote Borovsky. If any mention of it seeps back to the Soviet Union, I will be eliminated as a traitor. You on your side will be investigating lest it be a Soviet trick, but please see that the investigators do not have deep throats to the *Washington Post*. I am terrified about the prospect ahead. A counter-revolution is coming in my fatherland. In an attempt to avert it, the majority of my colleagues in the Politburo want to take steps that could lead to nuclear war. To escape from this it is essential that sensible people near the leadership of the Soviet Union and ruling people in the United States run this next lap together."

Andriy Borovsky delivered to the President the contingency plans for Soviet coups in all the threatened places. President Bush handled the affair rather well: with prompt nuclear and other defence guarantees. This depressed those in Moscow who were already suspicious of their hawk's inefficiency in not safeguarding intelligence. Most of the old men in the Politburo did not want to risk the sort of nuclear war that would in its first seconds bring rockets homing on to whatever places they were personally hiding in, and this Politburo majority now swung to Borovsky's side.

Borovsky had already outlined the three main flanks of his intended policy in his letter to Bush:

"1. It is going to be very easy to make the Russian economy boom. The situation (hopeless over-demand, near-total reliance on black markets) is most analogous to that of West Germany in 1947. West Germany's economic policies then have been much studied here ever since economics became a matter of playing games with computer models. We recognize that when West Germany dashed into freer markets after 1948, it dashed all the way into becoming one of the richest and nicest societies on earth: the Germans under the Bonn Government have behaved better than Germans have done for centuries. We in the Soviet Union are more educated than the Germans were in 1947, have a more advanced scientific base, and can emerge through the problems immediately ahead with higher morale than 1947 West Germany. Our group is determined to dash for economic freedom as dramatically as Erhard did: no half measures like the Hungarians and Chinese tried, which don't work.

After a monumental bureaucratic blunder at the GLC it seems that part of London may be shipped abroad before the end of the year.

What happened was that the Greek government made one of its periodic requests for the Elgin Marbles to be shipped back to Athens. These requests come about once a month and are routinely turned down by the government: the GLC, on the other hand, always agrees with the Greek request even though it has no jurisdiction over the marbles.

Recently, however, a temporary translator on duty at the Foreign Office mistranslated the phrase for Elgin Marbles (which she had never heard of) as Elgin Crescent (a street in Notting Hill which she knew well). A less than attentive GLC official later signed assent to the Greek government request, and now the GLC has found itself in the strange position of approving of the return of Elgin Crescent to the Greek capital.



When the 17 successor states of the old Soviet Union and the six former East European satellites joined North America, West Europe and Japan in the new northern OECD in the 1990s, over 50 per cent of the labour force in these rich countries were already white-collar workers. Life for these white-collar workers was about to be dramatically changed by the twenty-first century's distinctive transport revolution. The free-as-air telecommunicating computer terminal, universally known as the TC, had very different effects from the twentieth century's suburb-creating transport revolution

(the automobile) and the nineteenth century's United-States-creating transport revolution (the railways).

With telecommunications, cost did not depend on distance. White-collar workers from North America and W Europe could by 2005 go and live on the beach at Tahiti if they wanted to, and telecommute daily from there to the computers in the New York, London or Timbuctoo tax haven office through which they worked.

Throughout most of the twentieth century democrats had pretended to each other that they could significantly alter their lifestyles by voting on one

Tuesday or Thursday every four years whether Mr Reagan or Mr Mondale, Mrs Thatcher or Mr Kinnock, was putting on the tribal demonstrations which at that particular moment annoyed them less.

After the advent of the TC they found that the most sensible and direct way in which a free man could choose his government was by voting with his feet. The individual could go to live in any area where the local government permitted the lifestyle, rules and customs that he liked.

Sometimes these very local governments were hotel complexes in which

nobody had a vote; if you didn't like the lifestyle, you moved out. Sometimes they were communes in which everybody had a vote they often voted to do things that were very odd. Now, in 2024, they are often governed by computerized insurance contract. If your family does things which cause damage or distress to your neighbours, you get warning that your insurance premium for living in that neighbourhood unit is going up. But most people rifle regularly through the computerized video programmes on their TCs to examine the many alternative lifestyles on offer across the globe.

## The train now arriving at 76 New Bond St. is the Orient Express.

The elegance of the Orient Express has been recreated in its original style, and has now arrived at Collection Venice Simplon Orient Express, 76 New Bond Street.

From September 6th you will be able to buy many examples of that elegance.

As well as brass Pullman lamps, damask tablecloths, Limoges china, silverware and glass, you will find a range of superb leather luggage, lingerie, towels, toiletries and other exclusive articles all bearing the VSOE monogram.

So now, you can experience the Orient Express without even buying a train ticket - but we can arrange that for you too.

Collection Venice Simplon Orient Express, 76 New Bond Street, W.1. From September 6th.

COLLECTION  
VENICE SIMPLON  
ORIENT-EXPRESS



## Pickpocket millionaire of the telecommuting age

Giovanni Varchi (1982 - ) was born in a small town near Ragusa in Sicily. His father had been working in a small family business in Sicily, but moved to become a consultant. He was its only employee. On the surface the company did very little business. It made very modest profits considering the amount of capital which was tied up in its computers. Actually, Giovanni Varchi was by now a multimillionaire. He had hundreds of bank accounts in different foreign cities, none of which he had ever visited. Most of his money was invested in securities which brought in an income of tens of thousands of dollars per week. This was augmented by an even greater inflow of cash from other sources. Giovanni Varchi was one of the most successful thieves of all time.

He had achieved this distinction by covering his tracks so well that it usually could not be detected that a crime had been committed, let alone how or by whom. He began by finding ways to coverdrop on other people as they used their computer terminals. Then he would find a non-obtrusive way of removing money to his own accounts. Always he would do this in moderation, creating a small leakage for a short period of time. Always he would cover his track by amending records so that it was impossible at a later date for anyone to see how the money had been re-routed.

Varchi's distinction is that he was not the telecommuting equivalent of a bank robber, but rather the telecommuting equivalent of a pickpocket. It is probable that nobody has ever committed quite as many individual acts of theft as Giovanni Varchi.

Mr Varchi learned to his distress that the 24-year-old Giovanni was back in his native Sicily. He was running his own telecommuting company, which was nominally a consultancy. He was its only employee. On the surface the company did very little business. It made very modest profits considering the amount of capital which was tied up in its computers. Actually, Giovanni Varchi was by now a multimillionaire. He had hundreds of bank accounts in different foreign cities, none of which he had ever visited. Most of his money was invested in securities which brought in an income of tens of thousands of dollars per week. This was augmented by an even greater inflow of cash from other sources. Giovanni Varchi was one of the most successful thieves of all time.

He had achieved this distinction by

dictators whom we in the Soviet Union have been financing against them, and we will probably disagree on who is the worst lunatic to leave ruling which banana republic where. In at least five Latin American states I have frankly thought that the unpleasant would-be

observed by modern historians because of the eventual disappointment about Borovsky himself. When he emerged into the West out of his bloodless Russian counter-revolution of 1989-90, he was no hero on a white horse. He was a taut and nervous alcoholic, clearly an embarrassment in the ranks of the rather impressive Berisov Government which signed the Treaty of Friendship with the US in 1991. He committed suicide in 1995. After his death, horics began to appear of the horror that Borovsky had committed while a KGB official. This book will not demean itself by casting judgment on that. For the first 46 years of his life he played the usual role of a tense but intelligent young member of the old Soviet priviledgia. During his last seven years he played his part heroically.

He delivered us.

The author is deputy editor of *The Economist*. Extracted from *The 2024 Report: A concise history of the future 1974-2024, published on September 6 by Sidgwick & Jackson, £9.95.*

## moreover... Miles Kington

No doubt this order could be rescinded by the GLC, but the machinery has already been set in motion to carry out the move, which some people think no crazier than some other GLC decisions, and a budget has been set aside for it. More to the point, there is considerable feeling among the residents of Elgin Crescent that the move might not be half a bad thing.

"It would be a lot warmer, for a start", says one old age pensioner. "The doctor keeps saying I ought to get abroad during the British winter. There's no way I can afford that. But if the GLC is going to move us to Greece free of charge, well, I'm not going to go to say no. I'd miss the Portobello street market, mind you, but I expect they've got veg in Greece like everywhere else."

Elgin Crescent is a long, quite elegant street which starts at the Portobello Road, crosses Lad-

broke Grove and curls round the bottom of the hill. One person who is already looking forward to the move is Mr Julius Winter, a Jamaican who lives adjacent to Ladbroke Grove.

"Crossing Ladbroke Grove is absolute murder. The cars come along here as if they were in a big race and several times I have almost met my Maker. I hear that in Athens they drive very slow because of the traffic jams, and that suits me fine. I don't mind crossing Ladbroke Grove if I can do it in Athens. Do they have carnivals in Greece?"

The shops in Elgin Crescent are divided over the move. The classy delicatessen can see the advantage of not having to import Greek foodstuff any more but the bookshop would not take kindly to having to restock entirely in Greek books, especially as the different alphabet would play havoc with

the microfiche set-up. The big pub on the corner, though, would go down a treat in Greece, as there is a dearth of good old-fashioned pubs in Athens.

"What the situation would be over licensing hours is a tricky one", says the GLC defensively. "Presumably they could follow continental hours if they liked, i.e. open day and night, but I think the publican should be free to keep to English hours if he felt like it. Could be a tourist attraction, actually - I mean, very few Continentals know the delights of being chucked out at closing time and it could be a big draw. I think we'd have to draw the line at dancing on the tables, though. I don't believe it's licensed for dancing on the tables."

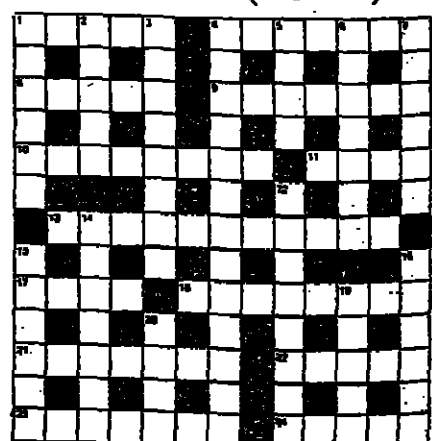
So far there has been no reaction from the Greek government. Presumably the news that Elgin Crescent is going to be returned to Athens is the sort of news that produces a stunned silence. Be sure that future developments, if any, will be reported here first.

## Tomorrow: The global bank takes over

### CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 435)

- ACROSS
- 1 Low and throaty (5)
  - 2 Pop band follower (7)
  - 3 Sullen (3)
  - 4 Governor (5)
  - 5 Laborious (7)
  - 6 Suffer deprivation (3)
  - 7 At this place (4)
  - 8 Like bad dream (11)
  - 9 Cloth scraps (4)
  - 10 Sweet smelling (8)
  - 11 Result (7)
  - 12 Soft pedalled (5)
  - 13 Inhabitant (7)
  - 14 Courage (5)

- DOWN
- 1 Bubble (6)
  - 2 Polish lancer (5)
  - 3 Sullen (3)
  - 4 Passing helper (4,9)
  - 5 Comply with (4)
  - 6 Greek sea god (7)
  - 7 Resurrection festival (6)



- 12 Middle East guide (8)
- 13 Innate (7)
- 14 Camera stand (6)
- 15 Change (5)
- 16 Interrogate (4)
- 17 Steamed pudding (6)

Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise



MONDAY PAGE

# 'Me earthmother, you breadwinner'



PENNY PERRICK

There is talk of betrayal in the air. Listen to this man described in the current issue of *Ms* magazine. "He sees himself as a feminist who always supported female goals of equality in the workplace. But he does not want to revise his own life plan - no marriage, no children - because the woman in his life is 'falling back' on traditional choices."

The woman in his life, as you have gathered, wants to have a baby or, to put it in the chap's own words: "She's cheating herself by giving up on her career."

It seems only yesterday - it probably was - that women were the ones who felt themselves at the business end of a betrayal. They moaned that they had given up everything for him - job, career prospects, the easy-going life of flat-sharing and blind dates. And now that they were stuck in the suburbs with the playgroup rota, the gerbils and the new baby, he was unfaithful, or wanted a divorce or separate holidays.

Times changed. A lot of women began to read a lot of books advising them how not to become their mothers, otherwise known as the generation of self-made martyrs. So they didn't. Instead they became half

of a dual-career, housework-sharing couple. Their role-model was the lawyer played by Meryl Streep in the film *The Seduction of Joe Tynan*, who fixes a mutually convenient meeting with her husband by asking him to "get your girl to call my girl". No one had to make any sacrifices, no one had to give up anything for

anybody and, with two incomes rolling regularly into the bank, everyone concerned could afford to indulge their taste for Sancerre, designer clothes and holidays in Mauritius. Being married became as much fun as not being married.

Only now, this current crop of equality-minded husbands seem to be saying, women are beginning to spoil it all. Having fought for the right to be allowed into the wonderful world of working men, they are now asking to be allowed out again. "Me earthmother, you breadwinner", is their turncoat message, hardly music to the ears of men, who have grown accustomed to washing the dishes, but not to paying the mortgage all by themselves.

So what are their feelings when their wives start demanding that old female privilege of being allowed to change their minds? Jealousy and resentment, according to *Ms* magazine, and who can blame them? "I keep thinking that she has the choice of staying home or going out and working", said one of the interviewees.

The tone sounds familiar. It is the peevish one that women once used when they felt that only men had any choice in how they lived their lives. "It's all right for him, he's not stuck in the house with the kids all day." Or, "I keep thinking as I open the tinned macaroni cheese for lunch that he's probably treating himself to a steak on expenses."

These captive wives resented the inequality that marriage forced on them. A generation later, their sons are beginning to voice their own protests about the problem as seen from their side.

Like Lorelei, women who want to "fall back" will no doubt start working on menfolk. "Wouldn't it be nice," they will ask enticingly, to come home to a lovingly prepared casserole, ironed bed linen, a glowing fire?

This may not cut much ice. Had their husbands wanted a girl just like the girl who married dear old dad they would have gone out and tracked one down years ago. By now they are far too spoilt to appreciate the good

things in life - only the absolutely perfect things will do.

They don't want home-cooking, they want to dine nightly in good restaurants and to be able to sign the bill with an easy flourish, knowing that their wife's pay check will take care of the central heating, the telephone and the latest account from the garage.

They don't want fireside domesticity. They want to be able to go to all-night parties or late movies without the fuss and bother of organizing a baby-sitter.

This contemporary dilemma will take some working out. I suspect that it will be the women who make all the moves - promising that a baby won't make any difference, running themselves ragged by going back to work too early afterwards and from then on attempting a precarious balancing act of tending husband, child and job. It will turn out to be a life full of sacrifice, similar in spirit although perhaps not in kind to that of their mothers.

Who is it that supplies people's names to the compilers of mailing

lists? Banks? Credit card companies? Department stores? Whoever it is, it is not playing fair, for my name was supplied to The Campana Finishing School of Farnham, Surrey, and I hope the school didn't pay out good money for it.

The Campana's mailing starts off: "This letter concerns the future of a young lady who is very close to you" and goes on to suggest that the best thing I can do for such a young female relative would be to send her to the Campana to learn cooking, secretarial skills, Savoir Faire (sic) and "social efficacy". She would also go to the school's Society Ball, escorted by a cadet from the local military academy.

Obviously, the Campana has not met up with any of the young ladies close to me. From my 24-year-old niece, Carey, who runs her own publishing company, to my eight-year-old niece, Rachel, who is more socially efficacious than Vivienne Ventura, they are a formidable bunch. Beautiful, intellectual and intelligent, I think they would prove more than the Campana could handle. And as for those poor cadets, I fear that my awesomely accomplished female relations would eat them for breakfast.

## TALKBACK

### Doctors in need of treatment

From Anne Ashley, *Timmy-noggy House*, 49 Godstone Road, Purley, Surrey

What a curious muddle the medical profession is in. Dr Stafford (August 18) declares that the parents of babies who are born with life-endangering congenital heart conditions are not in a "fit emotional state for the necessary detailed discussions" and, further, "the mother will not be in a position to comprehend" (my italics) the future difficulties. Thus he states the orthodox medical opinion that only doctors are endowed with the ability to make decisions about experimental surgery or any other kind of medical interference on other people's children. He implies that doctors are in a "fit emotional state" to make these decisions. But the rigorous exclusion of any form of discussion or encouragement of emotional growth within the training process of doctors and nurses must surely lead lay people to question this extraordinary and arrogant assumption.

Further, it appears that, when there are no exciting and adventurous surgical decisions to be made, parents are paradoxically expected by the same profession to be able to make complex decisions and to cope with handicapped babies quite as a matter of course and usually with no guidance, empathy or even minimal understanding from doctors and nurses who have been trained that caring attitudes diminish their expertise.

Recently a new born, handicapped baby disappeared. The parents of this baby, as the parents of all such babies, were under enormous stress and, in this case, there was no possible treatment. The experiences of similarly distressed parents leads one to conjecture that, in this case, there were no "detailed discussions" about the strength of the marriage or whether the parents would be able to cope. It was simply assumed that they would.

The medical profession must not be allowed to pick and choose which parents it should make decisions for. Indeed, it would be a great relief for patients if the profession would study the whole process of "making decisions" and this is underlined by the recent disquieting reports from several ombudsmen. Nor should this society continue to train doctors who believe that, without any understanding of emotional dynamics, they have the arbitrary power either to make unilateral decisions about people's lives or when there is no medical action possible, to withhold consideration and concern.

Mothers can give their children a better start than nursery schools, as Colin Hughes reports

# Why child's play teaches best

Pictures: Mike Abraham and Glyn Satterley



Important homework: Barbara Tizard and co-author Martin Hughes, who found nursery schools far less effective than learning at home



## FIRST PERSON

### Music to my ears on the Tube

I heard it as I stepped off the escalator at Holborn en route for the Piccadilly line. I looked around for the source of this heavenly sound, a sound as unexpected as it was delicious, then realized it came from a busker who stood some yards back from the bottom of the escalator. The busker was female. Her eyes were closed as she played the solo accompaniment to Mozart's flute concerto. The part of the orchestra was supplied by an enormous stereo transistor/record.

In front of her was spread out a piece of sackcloth on which were a few coins to which I added 10 pence.

"What a pleasure it is to hear you play," I said. The busker nodded and went on playing, opening her eyes a slit in acknowledgement of the 10 pence, the appreciation, or both. On the way home I passed a male busker playing the solo accompaniment to Brahms' Violin Concerto. I gave him 10 pence too and wished I had time to say and hear more.

As I hurried on, it occurred to me that I, and all the other commuters, did, in these circumstances, have the choice; that this was one of the rarer forms of unsolicited music and therefore much to be recommended in that it gave people the option whether to listen or not.

When I go to the hairdresser, for example, I am subjected from the moment a gown is draped around my shoulders to the moment I pay the bill to the high decibel, and for me unwelcome, jingles of *Radio One*, *Two* or *London*. No one has ever asked if I, or any other client, want this diversion.

It is not only annoying because it is less attractive to me than Brahms or Mozart, since I accept that either of them could be equally irritating to some folk as the sound of *Boy George* or *Michael Jackson* is to me; it is annoying because one cannot escape from it.

There are stores from which one feels excluded, though the stock is seductive, because a transistor has been turned to maximum volume and the music is alien.

It is this alienation that I think is most irksome. We are divided not by age or class but by obligatory noise, natural to some, loathsome to others.

Whether it is the majestic cadences of *Traviata* or the simple philosophy of "When will there be a harvest for the world, yeah, yeah, yeah", it is not improved by being played fortissimo, nor when there is no prospect of getting the volume reduced.

I have been a guest at weddings and other functions where the band or disco has been so loud that all attempt at communication with fellow guests had to be abandoned.

In public places there is usually a preference for the amplified beat of guitar and drum accompanied by frenzied vocalization. Maybe it is lyrics like "Wanna be starrin' something" or "Gonna get even, baby" or the ear-bursting head-splitting tumult that make it all seem threatening.

Which is why it gave so much pleasure to hear Mozart's Flute Concerto No. 1 in G Major played by a busker in London's Underground. And when I heard Brahms being celebrated on the same day I began to wonder if it is the wind of change that whirled through these corridors. I do hope so.

I am sure I could tolerate music of this enduring beauty in the hairdressers', even with the pitch turned up, though I would still rather be asked if I minded and have others asked if they minded too. Goodness knows I have often longed to march up to the transistor and ask its owner, with a touch of acid in my voice as I turned the volume knob anti-clockwise: "Do you mind?" But that is not quite the same, is it?

Mary Bourne

Child psychologists have long subjected mothers and children to artificial tests in cold and strange surroundings to reach the conclusion that special play programmes and tactical questioning are the best way to stimulate the pre-school mind. It has taken Barbara Tizard, professor of education at London University, and Dr Martin Hughes, a research fellow at Edinburgh University, thousands of hours listening to and recording children's conversations in the home, to reassert what many mothers know is commonsense: they are their child's best teacher.

Not that the two researchers want to undermine nursery schools and their teachers, or send working mothers mad with guilt and fleeing back to harassed housewifery. Nor do they want to put legions of childminders out of work. They do want mothers to see that even a few minutes talking over afternoon tea may teach their children more than hours with a nanny or a morning in nursery school.

Most particularly, Dr Tizard, a child psychologist who has spent much time carrying out those clinical tests, has found that educators have based their theories of child development on studies which vastly underestimate children's learning power.

Sitting in her director's office at the Thomas Coram Foundation for Children in London, with the bubbling noises of play drifting through the window from the foundation's special playground where adults are only allowed when accompanied by a child, she explains why she and Dr Hughes launched their research.

"I have spent a long time watching children in nurseries, and became increasingly concerned that children who should have been full of curiosity and questioning appeared subdued and even dull. I began to suspect that teachers who rigidly applied the theories they are taught were missing out on the quality of children's learning ability, and wanted to find out why."

The findings will soon be published in paperback. When Dr Tizard and Dr Hughes compared kitchen chatter with nursery school conversations, it was clear that not only do mothers consistently satisfy their puzzling progeny, but children were fully able to follow logical thoughts through to intelligent con-

clusions. Some bright four-year-olds showed powers Dr Tizard believes many teachers would think impossible.

Even family rows about domestic issues taught children complex facts about their wider social world, from wage earning to why we have to take other people's characters into account. They debated why the Queen wears no crown, why vets kill animals and extended their vocabulary way beyond what they displayed in the classroom.

There, children rarely asked questions, or challenged their teachers and only replied with reluctance. Despite all the children having attended nursery for at least a year, they only held an average of ten conversations an hour with their teachers.

At home mothers kept up an astonishing average of 27 and a half. Besides being twice as long as the school talks, many were also what Dr Tizard calls "passages of intellectual search", conversations in which children doggedly sought successive answers until they resolved confusion over a problem that might have been worrying them for days. Not one such conversation was recorded in school.

Dr Tizard chuckles: "I don't want to mislead anyone into believing that children can understand everything. Of course they can't. I can never forget when my own son, aged

about four, heard me describe a man we had seen as walking along with eyes on the ground. My son looked up at me aghast. He really believed that the man's eyes had fallen out and he was tramping on them."

He maintained that children learn best discovering things for themselves, a view shared by Dr Tizard. It does not mean, however, that special toys are better than mothers discussing a story which leads to a chat about the forthcoming family holiday. In some of the reading sessions the Tizard team recorded, children showed they could remember and predict the most complex events which would never surface in a nursery.

Fiaget also believed children could not think logically. Dr Tizard found that they could, but they simply did not have the right information to complete their ideas.

Teachers frown on parents who try to teach the "three Rs", fearing they will clog the child's mind. In what Dr Tizard calls the "curriculum of the home", literacy and numeracy are natural acquisitions. Some mothers tried to sit down and teach their children by rote, but discussions over shopping lists, writing letters to Granny, reading signs, and deciding how many cakes to bake for tea made counting and spelling questions inevitable.

Educators, despite knowing that children learn fastest when

## THE CASE IN POINT FOR JUNE, AGED FOUR

June is an average IQ child aged four. Compare these two conversations, one playing Knockout Whist with her mother at home, the other at nursery school.

Mother deals cards. June: I got a good hand here again, but I can help it, I got two aces here. Mother: You shouldn't tell me what you got, go on, call trumps.

June: I call heart, I not putting a heart down. (The play six tricks, the child wins four, mother two). Mother: So how many you got? June: Three.

Mother: You haven't count. And I've got...? June: Two. And how many did I have? Mother: Four.

They deal five cards each. June: Oh, I got a good hand here as well again. Ace of spades. Mother: What you gonna call? June: Diamonds.

Mother: (Looking at child's hand) You haven't got any diamonds. June: I have, I got one diamond. Mother: What you got an ace of? June: Spades.

Mother: Well call that then. June: Spades. As Dr Tizard comments: "It would be difficult to think of an activity within the capacity of a young child that brings so many mathematical skills together."

Despite being in a working class home surrounded by imperfect ungrammatical language, June's grasp is beyond what most teachers would imagine, as the next conversation with the same girl shows.

June brings a piece of paper to her teacher. June: Can you cut that in half, cut it in half. Teacher: What would you like me to do it with? June: Scissors.

Teacher: With the scissors? Well you go and get them, will you. (June does, and the teacher cuts the paper). Teacher: How many have you got now? (No reply). How many have you got now? (Silence). How many pieces of paper have you got? June: Two.

Teacher: Two. What have I done if I cut it down the middle? June: Two pieces. Teacher: I've cut it in...? (No reply). What have I done? (No reply). Do you know? (June shakes her head, then eventually repeats).

June: In the middle. Teacher: I've cut it in the middle. I've cut it in half. So we got there in the end. The only problem was that June had already asked the teacher to cut the paper in half, and knew perfectly well what the word meant.

No wonder she failed to answer the stream of questions. Tizard comments: "Many educational advisers would congratulate June's teacher on noticing the educational potential of this situation". But the style of questioning the teacher has been taught to use leaves June losing confidence and doubting the small knowledge she does have.

applying themselves to tasks which bear some meaning, devise ever more devious toys to stimulate them. At home the same children are bathing babies, drying dishes, tidying floors, and developing skills because they feel an impelling need to emulate adults.

"What most impressed us was the children's amazing intellectual power, their passion to understand. And by and large it is the parents who provide the answers", said Dr Tizard. Even mothers who complained that their child's constant quizzing drove them to frenzies of frustration delivered what the child demanded. No nursery teacher could hope to keep that up.

Story-time turned out to be far from the cosy idyll popularly portrayed. Most mothers used stories as a ruse to win peace with fractious offspring on a trying day. None the less, sessions which started fraught with tension rapidly turned into gay chatter. At school, in contrast, a circle of children seated round a teacher passively listened without seeking out reference in the story to their own experience.

As the inserts show, children who are alert at home can appear dull at school, particularly those from less well-off families. Tizard comments have, in fact, led Dr Tizard and Dr Hughes to believe that working-class children are not educationally deprived, but overruled by school, and so seem subdued.

Teachers conclude they are intellectually immature, and a vicious circle begins. Dr Tizard believes that the deprived children are those in large families whose siblings do not talk to them, or isolated homes, where mothers have not the time to talk, or the child with no opportunity to follow the events of an adult day.

Dr Tizard expects parents to scour their book for clues on child-rearing. "It's a pity, because the point is that parents can relax. All our work shows that, whether they try or not, the child goes on learning. Nor is there any reason why this mother/child relationship should go on for hours a day. We just want people to realize that the quality of learning at home is so high, and that schools are far from effective."

Young Children Learning, by Barbara Tizard and Martin Hughes, is published by Fontana on September 18, price £2.95 paperback.

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## SOLIDARITY SKIN-DEEP

At last year's Trades Union Congress much was heard about the "new realism", according to which union leaders were to come to terms with the democratic fact of a Conservative government confirmed in office at a general election on a programme of trade union reform. They were also to reappraise the temper and requirements of their members and modify their policies accordingly.

Mr Len Murray was the embodiment of that revisionist programme. He strove to apply it in the three-cornered dispute between the NGA, Mr Eddie Shah and the law. He was, he thought, torpedoed by Cheltenham. Now he has the sad duty of sitting in the middle of the platform for the last time, in a week when his previous efforts will all be blown away by Mr Scargill's wind machine.

Instead of a new realism will be the old seeming, as the barons struggle to create an appearance of solidarity with strikers whose conduct many of them heartily disapprove of and whose peremptory demand that all pits be kept open until exhausted or unsafe many of them think unreasonable. They do not want to be tied to the NUM's chariot wheels, nor do they want to see the NUM routed, since their own power would be compromised in the collapse.

The formula that has been produced to provide cover for the confusion is equivocal. The general council affirms "total support" for the NUM's objectives of "saving pits, jobs and mining communities", and total support for measures to make the strike more effective by not moving coal or coke or substituted oil across NUM official picket lines and not using those

materials if they are taken across picket lines. However the same statement goes on to record that the NUM acknowledges that implementation of those measures "will need agreement with unions who would be directly concerned".

Since the main unions in the target areas of steel and power generation have signified that they do not agree to anything of the kind, the formula is self-confuting. Mr Terry Duffy of the engineering workers' union, for one, lays emphasis on that point. Mr Scargill prefers to think that the executives of those unions, whatever their present views, will be bound to further the policy once it has been endorsed by the TUC today.

Even if Mr Scargill is right (and he cannot be right of the steelworkers, who have been through a period of rapid contraction far more severe than anything proposed for the miners and who are therefore tenacious of such jobs as remain) he reckons without the foot soldiers. "We are not in command of some army of conscripts or puppets" (Mr Murray again). The members have minds of their own, and are coming to expect to be afforded the opportunity to declare their minds by ballot. Their reluctance to join hands with Mr Scargill was mapped in three opinion polls reported in yesterday's papers. And there is harder evidence before the eyes of the delegates at Brighton in the duplicated failure to sustain a national dock strike on behalf of the miners.

In compensation, it is claimed that the NUM has been obliged to give the general council of the TUC a purchase on the dispute. That is true; it enters by the same door as the new manifestations

of "total support" are supposed to issue from. The hope of the moderate members of the general council is that this will enable them to influence the miners' picketing tactics and negotiating stance. Perhaps, but with Mr Scargill's ruthless absolutism on one side of the table and a vacillating and divided membership of the general council on the other, it is anybody's guess who will have more effect upon whom.

Once the miners had raised the standard of confrontation the traditions and practices of British trade unionism dictated a display of solidarity from the TUC. But the formula chosen for the purpose is a dishonest one with subsequent recrimination built into it. And it is silent on all the reservations its sponsors feel and could legitimately have expressed about the miners' action.

What is more, by formally associating the TUC with secondary picketing and action it removes the main ground for the inhibition, which has prevailed throughout the miners' strike, against taking unions to court for civil wrongs done through unlawful picketing and industrial action. The effects of such litigation on the attitude of moderate trade unionists will no longer have to be considered since they will already have become implicated in unlawful action through the decision of the TUC. The law may at last be drawn from its scabbard. It may be used as the remedy for which it was fashioned. "We have strict statutes and most biting laws" which we have let sleep;

Dead to infiction, to themselves are dead,  
And liberty plucks justice by the nose.

## THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

This summer President Chernenko disappeared from public view to enjoy the southern sun of the Crimean coast, but not all the communist party bureaucrats have found the holiday months relaxing. The Moscow leadership has launched a series of wide-ranging purges which have shaken the ranks of administrators the length and breadth of the USSR.

When senior officials in the non-Russian republics are dismissed and a few executed, the question of nationalist discontent naturally arises. Are the Russians in danger of losing their grip on the hundred or so other nations which form the remaining half of the Soviet population? But the USSR is less a Russian empire than a multinational domain ruled by party apparatchiks drawn from all nations, and it is not so much Russian dominion which is under threat as the continuation of the Kremlin's centralized control and the survival of the unworkable planning system.

Certainly the Russians have a higher proportion of top jobs than could be justified by their share of the population, which has probably dropped below the 52 per cent reported in the last census. Almost 70 per cent of Central Committee members, for example, are Russians. Promotion of the Russian language at the expense of their native tongues is resented by

many non-Russians, although a common means of communication is clearly required. There is a tendency to blame most of the hardships of life in the USSR on an alien system imposed by Russians alone, but responsibility for the present Soviet regime has to be shared more widely.

Moreover, an examination of the purges and harsh judicial measures reported recently in the press of the non-Russian republics suggests that the victims' offences were less of a nationalist nature than of a variety common enough throughout the USSR. In Georgia last month a clergyman, two doctors and an actor were sentenced to death for their part in an armed hijacking attempt; a girl student accomplice was imprisoned for 14 years. In January the party newspaper *Zarya Vostoka* reported:

One must look the truth in the face: it is not such a rare occurrence that from cultured, well-educated families come spiritual cripples, young people, criminals and drug addicts. It was precisely such young people who committed that horrible, scandalous crime on 18 November last year...

Their motivation was the same as for the defection of the young Estonian Mr Valdo Rampere and his wife, a desire to leave the USSR. Yet these were

not people from dissident circles but from the privileged sector which has gained most from the Soviet system. Mr Rampere was formerly a deputy to the Estonian Minister of Justice. Following criticisms by the Central Committee in Moscow the Estonian party leader, Mr Karl Vaino has admitted that "crime prevention work is weak" and that there was cases of "large-scale embezzlement of socialist property" in Estonia. The republic's Minister of Finance was among those publicly rebuked, and many other leading officials were dismissed.

It is not only the Baltic and Transcaucasian republics which provide evidence of high-level corruption and inefficiency. In the Central Asian republic of Uzbekistan *Pravda Vostoka* reported the sacking of the Minister of the Cotton Industry for "unprincipled work, violations of state discipline and serious defects in the selection and placement of staff". The chairman of the republic's Union of Journalists was dismissed for abusing his position for personal gain in a way "incompatible with the ethics of journalism". But most significant was the admission that output was falling, wastage and theft were widespread and "corruption encompasses many categories of personnel, including certain ministry and enterprise administrators".

## PANACEA'S BOX

It is good to know, from an advertisement placed in *The Times* last week, that Joanna Southcott's box is still available to rescue the nation from its tribulations. The assurance came from the Panacea Society, guardians of the ark and testament of the Woman clothed in the Sun: crime, banditry, distress of nations and perplexity will continue to increase until the bishops do their stuff and open the box of sealed writings. Thereupon all will be revealed, with the advent of the millennium.

The bishops come into it on the authority of the prophetic herself, who declared before she died in 1814 that her box was to be opened at a time of national distress in the presence of four-and-twenty bishops, in line with Revelation, iv, 10.

The last time the box was opened was on July 11, 1927, in a ceremony at Church House, Westminster. It had come into the hands of the National Laboratory for Psychological Re-

search. All bishops were invited. One turned up, and he, a suffragan. The box was found to contain among other items a pistol, child's nightcap, dice box, calendar of the French Court of 1783, a lottery ticket (Richardson Good Luck and Company, 1795), coins, ear rings, an edition of the *Metamorphoses* of Ovid, and a book called "Surprise of Love, or an Adventure in Greenwich Park".

Something had gone wrong. Either the psychological research people had got hold of the wrong box or, more likely, the ceremony was under-blessed, and so ineffectual.

In the present state of affairs a panacea is just what is needed. Yet its discovery depends on twenty-four bishops being mustered for the purpose. It is not absolutely certain that they have to be Anglican bishops, though in the lifetime of Joanna there was no other sort of bishop abroad in the land; and in doctrinal matters, as distinct from special illumination, she

never strayed further from the Church of England than Methodism.

But where are twenty-four bishops of the necessary credulity to be found, Anglican or otherwise? Not in Durham. In the bible-belt of the United States? Rome, though well supplied with bishops, can hardly be expected to deliver; for as Macaulay pointed out Rome has its own way with visionary women: the Countess of Huntingdon would be in the calendar as Saint Selina, and Joanna Southcott would be remembered as the founder of an order of bare-footed Carmelites.

There is an impasse. The thing cannot be done without bishops, but the bishops will not play. The Crown Appointments Commission simply does not make them in the Southcott mould. It looks as if the world will have to stagger on in perplexity and distress of nations at least until the end of Satan's reign, in (is it?) sixteen years' time.

If, however, all that is proposed is a voluntary scheme, ample opportunities already exist for older people to give their time and talents in community service. There is a breathing diversity of opportunity in the voluntary sector, and for those who seek guidance REACH (Retired Executives Action Clearing House) or the 300 volunteer bureaux throughout the UK can see that their skills and experience are put to appropriate use.

It is barbaric to suggest that those in receipt of a hard-earned pension should be compelled to carry on working. The individual does not yet belong to the state.

Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS GRACE, Director,  
REACH,  
Victoria House,  
Southampton Row, WC1.  
August 28.

## Work of the elderly

From Mr Nicholas Grace

Sir, National community service is once again being proposed, but this time for the elderly (letter, August 27). If it is to be compulsory, not only is the suggestion anti-libertarian, but it is a contradiction in terms to compel people to do good. It would, too, require a massive new bureaucracy to supervise it.

## Pit strike implications for Britain

From the Director of Christian Action

Sir, On your front page today (September 1), alongside the headline "Jobless up 15,000 in steady trend" - to 3,115,888 - is the other: "MacGregor puts case to the TUC". Much of the page concerns, of course, the miners' strike.

The issues of the strike are complex, but there is no doubt that it is overwhelmingly by people who fear they are the next in line for the "steady trend". Those who are already unemployed will understand the strikers only too well. Those in full-time work and whose jobs are not threatened will find understanding more difficult.

A deep-seated fear cannot be cast out by reason alone, especially if that fear is not groundless, e.g. if the "steady trend" has advanced to your door.

That, surely, is why the situation calls for a new imaginative quality of reconciling initiative.

Yours sincerely,  
ERIC JAMES, Director,  
Christian Action,  
11 Denny Crescent,  
Kennington, SE11.  
September 1.

From Professor Alan Day

Sir, Mr Aubrey Jones (August 24) like a number of your other correspondents derives lessons for current fuel policy from attempts to forecast the demand for and supply of various kinds of energy as far as 50 years ahead. Such forecasts of technological and economic circumstances are almost certainly grossly misleading. (Who in 1934 could possibly have forecast the fuel situation in 1984?)

But even if it should prove right that in some decades from now it will be economic to exploit coal seams which cannot be exploited today except at heavy loss, it is very strange indeed to conclude from this that the seams should be used up now. Once the coal has been dug out it is no longer available for future exploitation.

If one really believes that these subterranean seams will ultimately become very valuable, the right solution is to leave the coal in the ground, enabling future generations to exploit it by whatever means then prove most efficient - something which no one can know today.

Long-term pessimism about future fuel costs therefore simply reinforces the conclusions of those

(like myself) who have no confidence in such forecasts. These are, that we should currently be relying to a considerably greater extent than we do on coal imports which are available from several countries at costs well below those of any but the most efficient of British mines.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN DAY,  
9 Bingham Street, N1,  
August 24.

From Mr M. A. Adburgham

Sir, It is surely time the banks and building societies took stock of the striking miners' position and counselled them against disaster. They are being drawn further and further into debt. Wage increases in the future will relate to circumstances existing at the time. They cannot recover, retrospectively, massive debt arrears.

The banks and building societies may have granted a moratorium on loan interest and mortgage repayments, but they cannot revoke interest charges nor money lent. It is not their money to give away; it belongs to their shareholders, depositors and investors.

Many miners will be tempted to borrow money to repay borrowed money (the classic trap) and to repay money lent on credit by local retailers.

Out of kindness and probity, the banks and building societies and all reputable money lenders should now put a stop to the open-ended credit they have allowed, or tens of thousands of honest miners will be faced with a terrible personal calamity.

I am, Sir, yours etc,  
M. A. ADBURGHAM,  
1 Mill Lane,  
Benson, Oxfordshire.  
August 28.

From Mrs M. Forrester

Sir, Arthur Scargill remarks in today's *Times* (feature, August 31) that "mining families" and "the labour movement have assumed responsibility for... the nation's welfare".

I have thought there was a vote in June of last year when a Conservative Government was elected to this responsibility. Have I missed something? Yours faithfully,  
MIRANDA FORRESTER,  
20 Ladbroke Square, W11.  
August 31.

P. Wadsworth, insisted that "just" could only be used as the opposite of "unjust".

Wadsworth, thou shouldst be living at this sorry hour of writing! Anyhow, I have just decided hereafter to join Philip Howard in seeking to avoid "the box of this little word". Would that such resolution could be as infectious as the pest.

Yours,  
LENA M. JEGGER,  
House of Lords,  
August 28.

## Colour of Big Ben

From Dr Stephen Pasmore

Sir, Dr Edwards (August 25) is wrong. The chiming of Big Ben could never give offence to Oxford because they were composed by the young William Croft after he had left his post as paragonist at Great St Mary's, Cambridge, and moved to Oxford.

Croft admired Handel and adapted "I know that my Redeemer liveth" from *Messiah* to create the chiming.

Yours faithfully,  
STEPHEN PASMORE,  
South Cottage,  
Ham Gate Avenue,  
Richmond, Surrey.

## Code for new cults

From Mrs Beryl Garstide

Sir, Mr David Ahon, MP (August 18) and Mr Casey McCann (August 21) suggest that a "voluntary code" for new religions would protect civil rights without infringing religious liberty.

This is surely double-think. If the proposals are not to introduce state discrimination in religion, then one assumes the code would apply to all religions.

Mr Ahon proposes "to forbid long-term commitments before the age of majority"; is confirmation then to be outlawed? His code would "require information on individuals and groups to be made available"; does this mean a state register of individual religious affiliation and the end of confidentiality of the confessional?

It would "allow freedom of access to cult members at all times"; what then of closed monastic orders and of the individual right to privacy?

The principle of religious freedom, which has long been established, exists for all or for none. The code which has been proposed sounds in no way voluntary and should ring alarm bells for all who value their freedom under the law.

Who it is asked, could object to a voluntary code. Who indeed? It should be remembered that it has traditionally been the role of religion to provide the spiritual and moral lead in society, and that virtually all major religions have in their infancy provoked violent reaction for attempting to do just that.

There is indeed a good argument for the growing interfaith movement to isolate the moral principles held in common by different faiths, and seek to promote these in a secular context. Such a code might have immense value for all of society and would certainly be a force against rising crime, family upheaval and drug addiction.

Sincerely,  
BERYL GARSTIDE, Chairman,  
Church of Scientology,  
Religious Education College,  
Saint Hill Manor,  
East Grinstead,  
West Sussex.

## Britain and Europe

From Lord Boothby

Sir, Lord Gladwyn is wrong when he says in his letter of August 16 that the original Council of Europe recommended a federal European Union. What it did recommend was the gradual build-up of "a kind of United States of Europe" (Churchill's own words) and, more specifically, the immediate creation of a European Defence Community.

These proposals were warmly supported by Mr Macmillan and Mr Duncan Sandys. It was Eden's announcement at a press conference in Rome in December, 1951, that Britain would never participate in any kind of European Defence Community that had the traumatic effect and provoked the Conservative delegates to the Council of Europe, of whom I was one, to send a letter to the Prime Minister, signed by the lot, which began: "It is no exaggeration to say that the unexpected and unqualified refusal of Great Britain to participate in a European army came as a shattering blow to the Assembly," and ended: "We venture to appeal to you to take some positive action designed to restore British prestige in the Consultative Assembly, and to show that his Majesty's Government mean to play their part in the military defence and economic development of a United Europe."

To this letter there was no reply. Where Lord Gladwyn is right is when he says that it is no use crying over spilt milk and that we have to begin again. But we cannot build on the rickety foundations of the present EEC. We have to go back to the drawing board, and we must have done it. The last time the Field Marshal ever said to me was: "You want Western European unity. So do I. But we will never get it by means of a talking shop in Strasbourg and an expensive international bureaucracy, without political power."

That is what we have now got, and that is why we have not got European unity.

Your obedient servant,  
BOOTHBY,  
House of Lords,  
August 16.

## Children as our vital resource

From Mrs Margaret Wynn

Sir, Your leading article of August 27, "Benefits for children", refers to the demographic circumstances of the 1980s. With a few ups and downs the British birthrate has been declining for 20 years and for over 11 years has been consistently below the long-term replacement level.

If the current total period fertility rate stopped falling and stabilised at the present level there would be, in due course, a fall in the population of England and Wales about 18 per cent per generation, disregarding any effect of immigration.

Many people welcome this prospect of a falling population and the task of stabilising population at a lower level may well be left to a future generation. There is, however, surely no demographic argument at the present time for depriving that minority of couples who produce most of the next generation of any "bounty for the maintenance of children."

Your leading article refers also to the social circumstances of the 1980s. The Manpower Services Commission has emphasized that the prospects of employment are declining permanently for young persons without marketable knowledge or skills. It is not possible for Britain to enjoy the full fruits of modern industry, agriculture or services without a large investment in the upbringing, education and training of the coming generation.

The greater part of the cost of this investment will, in any event, fall upon parents. More competent and trained young persons will take longer to educate and be dependent longer upon their parents. A tax system which makes little distinction between a married couple with and without dependent children reduces the resources available for investment in the next generation and so, too, does any reduction in any social payment for children.

Child benefit replaced the child tax allowance for taxpayers and gives the same benefit to parents who pay no tax.

Alfred Marshall once said that regard for the future was both a chief product and a chief cause of civilization. Regard for the future points to children as the crucial resource.

Yours faithfully,  
MARGARET WYNN,  
9 Views Road,  
Highgate, N6,  
August 28.

## Figuring it out

From Mr J. G. Links

Sir, I am surprised that the Post Office has not already answered Mr Blow's letter (August 25) explaining that the postcode system, like the closing of post offices, is all in the cause of productivity.

Do its sorters really need such feather-bedding? If I write to a friend living in a Swiss village, all I put on the envelope is his name and "CH 1295 Mies" and the letter is delivered promptly enough. This is more than can be said for a letter to my tax inspector whose address occupies seven lines (and this is often beaten by the addresses of academics who write to you).

But what about the productivity of those who have to type or print these prolix addresses (or reference numbers, about which much can be written) or wait in the even longer queues of the remaining post offices? Reduced services may result in increased productivity in one area and less in another.

In East Germany, whence I have just returned, one queues for everything - not because of shortage of goods (such as potatoes or rail tickets or rubber stamps) so much as of people to sell or issue what is needed.

Where are all the people who might be helping to make things work? Presumably waiting in queues for something else.

Yours faithfully,  
J. G. LINKS,  
2 Hyde Park Street, W2,  
August 29.

## Matters of opinion

From Mrs Marie Staunton

Sir, The literary device used by Digby Anderson in his article (August 22) uses half-truths and innuendo to discredit the independence of an inquiry dedicated to disentangling fact from allegations. Mr Anderson's accusation that the personal political opinions of certain members of NCCL in past decades will affect the present views of a distinguished independent outside panel is as nonsensical as the suggestion that NCCL should politically vet its members.

Members of the Communist Party have been elected to NCCL committees - as have Conservative Party activists. The individuals of differing political opinions named by Mr Anderson have done sterling work for NCCL as have members of all the major political parties.

In his eagerness to discredit the inquiry Mr Anderson overlooks the real question of the seriousness of allegations relating to the policing of the miners' dispute.

It is open to the inquiry to decide that the police have acted, in his words, "with reactive... firmness" against "illegal violence of the pickets". Unlike Mr Anderson, however, before doing so, they will look at the facts of the policing of the dispute, at the role of the courts and, for instance, the constitutional position of the National Reporting Centre before reaching any conclusions.

Yours faithfully,  
MARIE STAUNTON,  
Legal Officer,  
National Council for Civil Liberties,  
21 Tabard Street, SE1.  
August 22.

From Mr W. T. Gribbin

Sir, Your leader of August 27 about benefits for children gives me further doubts about what exactly our Conservative Government is supposed to be conserving.

As a teacher, I see few signs that its icy puritanism is dedicated to the quickening of young minds through education. Resources go elsewhere.

As a father of eight children I feel angry and threatened that this same puritanical sterility now has its dead hand pointed at family allowances, which constitute 25 per cent of my income. To have this money reclassified as "welfare for the poor" would be really rubbing my humble teacher's nose in the dirt of declining status and reward.

If the Government really are conservers they will stamp, with at least a show of indignation, on the idea that "procreation is a matter of personal pleasure for parents". This is the stuff of a computer, squeamish about flesh and blood, cherishing sterility as more precious than a future generation that might object to an absence of conservation in the environment, in education, health and employment; it is the stuff of a society that legalises the murder of that unborn next generation.

The Institute of Fiscal Studies has got it wrong anyway. The tradition which I conserve and purvey says that it is sex, not procreation which brings the personal pleasure; that, for humans, involves love - not quite the same as pleasure. Rearing the procreated is actually not all personal pleasure at all!

The job of the state is to help me, as teacher and parent, in my task. Let the Institute of Fiscal Studies be first to tell that the state exists to serve, and help me serve my children; then let it implode into its own death-wishing think-tank.

I reckon that most Marxist governments show a greater desire to conserve than do our Conservatives. What are they trying to conserve? It isn't people.

Yours faithfully,  
W. T. GRIBBIN,  
Lindisfarne, Old Hall Green,  
Ware, Hertfordshire.  
August 28.

From Mrs Charles Grace

Sir, Child benefit is the only money the mother, as it were, earns for doing her job.

Yours faithfully,  
HARRIET GRACE,  
16 West Park Road,  
Kew,  
Richmond, Surrey.  
August 31.

## Fast food for francs

From Mr Peter McAndrew

Sir, In his letter of August 25 Mr Adam Ruck expresses the vain hope that the Académie Française will not fail in its duty to ban from Larousse all imported gastronomic terminology (Sandwich? Pizza? Chili con Carne?).

The truth is that the Académie is responsible for *Le Dictionnaire de l'Académie*, the wheels of which turn sufficiently slowly to delight all the "purist prigs" we have been reading about in your columns of late. It wields as much power over Larousse as it does over Webster's or the OED.

However, if the word "Macdo" survives another 50, or better, another 100 years, then the cautious Immortals might just consider its inclusion in what should be by then the tenth edition of their magnum opus. I suggest that Mr Ruck need have no fears on their behalf.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER McANDREW,  
20 Rue de Commandant Mouchotte,  
75014 - Paris,  
France.  
August 26.

## Infants at risk

From Dr J. C. Allen

Sir, The assertions of the Brooke Centre people (August 18) really ought not to go unchallenged.

To begin with, I know of no evidence to prove that if abortion is freely available there will be less of it. In fact, the evidence points the other way: make abortion freely available and there will be more of it.

Their assertion, then, that the recent attempt by the United States to act on the basis of moral principles will increase abortions is wrong.

And secondly, the way to reduce infant mortality is by medicine, by alleviating hunger, or even by contraception, but not by the destruction of healthy children in utero.

Yours sincerely,  
J. C. ALLEN,  
7 Victoria Court,  
Albert Road,  
Leicester.

## Thought for the day

From Mr Michael Morris

Sir, Mr Owen Curtis (August 29) need search no further for the meaning of "think tank", as it is included in a recently published dictionary, *The Modern Newspeak*, by John Pick.

Thin tank: ironic title for an organisation within which troublesome intellectuals may be immersed and forgotten for long periods.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL MORRIS,  
14b Kennington Oval, SE11.  
August 29.

From Mr J. D. F. Green

Sir, I always thought a "think tank" was a goldfish bowl in which intellectuals exercised themselves without hope of making progress. I was once chairman of one.

Yours etc,  
J. D. F. GREEN,  
The Manor,  
Chedworth,  
Cheltenham,  
Gloucestershire.  
August 29.







A SPECIAL REPORT

# World aerospace

Aviation is moving out of recession and the airlines are in a buying mood. There are signs of optimism at this week's international air show and flying displays at Farnborough.

**T**HE world aerospace industry is assembling at Farnborough today for the Society of British Aerospace Companies' biennial exhibition and flying display in a more buoyant mood than two years ago when the recession was still biting and sales of aircraft, engines, and equipment were in the doldrums.

Passengers and freight are now returning in encouraging numbers to the airlines, putting this sector of the industry into a buying mood, while the absence of any detente between East and West is increasing the sales prospects of the military sector.

SBAC estimates the total world market for civil, military, and space "hardware" sales between this show and the end of the century at some £1,000bn. It also estimates that 350,000 people will pass through Farnborough's gates between today and next Sunday, when the air show closes, to view the wares of 500 exhibitors from 23 countries, which include 150 aircraft, 70 of which will take part in the flying display each afternoon.

Nobody expects that any large orders will be logged and announced during the course of the show. Farnborough, and its great rival the Paris aviation salon, held in alternate years, are for seeing what the aerospace industry is developing, and for meeting potential customers — contacts which may not come to fruition for several years.

It is also for coming together with partners, for few aerospace manufacturers today can muster either the financial or technological capacity to embark on new projects on their own.

Developmental costs of aerospace are becoming enormous as its customers demand quieter, lighter, safer, and more efficient products. Two of the major trends in the industry which will be mirrored in the new aircraft on show, and in the exhibition halls, space in which was over-subscribed by 30 per cent several months ago, are advanced aviation electronics (avionics), and new materials designed to replace aluminium, the basic aviation construction metal since wood and wire went out of fashion in the 1920s.

Of these two advances, avionics is making the faster progress, and most of the new airliners coming off the production lines in Europe and the

United States have their essential flight instruments generated by computers on to cathode ray tube screens. On the flight deck, and have the ability to fly themselves with great accuracy on journeys across continents.

But amazing as these inventions are, the avionics sector of aerospace believes they are only the beginning of a revolution as the microchip becomes more powerful and even smaller.

New materials, notably carbon fibre and other composites, and lithium-aluminium, already form non-load-bearing structures in a number of aircraft in both airline and military service today, and are beginning to be employed for some primary structures as well.

British Aerospace has a contract to make an all-carbon fibre wing for a new Swedish fighter, while only a few days before Farnborough began the company joined up, at its Kingston-upon-Thames factory, the main sections of the second-generation Harrier vertical take-off interceptor which, in its various versions, will have an all-composite wing, cockpit, and horizontal tail.

But the day of the all-composite aircraft is still a long way off, and the debate will continue at Farnborough over whether carbon fibre is really the material for the future, or whether it will be lithium-aluminium, which can be worked on existing machinery. Both are, at present, more expensive than aluminium but, being lighter, offer attractive payload savings, a factor which, with future uncertainties over the price of oil, the aircraft industry cannot ignore.

The arrival for the first time in the history of the Farnborough Show of the Russians will, inevitably, create a great deal of interest. None of the three aircraft, a turbo-prop airliner, a big helicopter, and the wide-

bodied IL-86 airliner, is new to the West. In fact the latter has been displayed at several Paris shows and has been in service with Aeroflot on air routes within the Soviet Union for five years.

The stationing of these aircraft on the Farnborough flight line will, however, give western observers a leisurely opportunity not normally afforded to size up the progress of Soviet aviation technology. The Russians, in their turn, will no doubt be anxious to measure western technology.

Although perhaps more open than it was in the past, the military side of the business at Farnborough will still be limited by security in what it can display. Noticeable trends here will be in avionics, not only navigation and cockpit displays, but in early-warning radars and infra-red detectors, and in the miniaturisation of missile systems.

Companies will also be ready to show their progress in "stealth" — that is, making aircraft less detectable by shielding the "signature" of their engines from heat-seeking missiles, and by employing new coatings on their wing and fuselage surfaces to lessen their reflection on radar screens.

In the space sector, the entries of

many countries will reflect the growing international nature of the business, with nations as far away as Indonesia and the Middle East taking part in the preparation of satellites and experiments destined to take rides beyond the earth's atmosphere on either the European Ariane rocket or the United States shuttle.

The development of communications satellites is providing increasingly large amounts of work for companies whose background is in the manufacture of aircraft. British Aerospace, for instance, is a partner in a contract worth \$1.6bn to make five such satellites for the Intelsat consortium, with a further 11 craft on option.

Each Intelsat satellite will weigh 4,000lbs in orbit, stand 39ft tall, and their solar panels will generate 2,000 watts of electrical power, sufficient to service 33,000 telephone calls and

four television channels. The main drive of the aircraft engine manufacturers, as laid out in the Farnborough exhibition halls, will be towards a new generation of powerplants which will offer the airlines and the military more power for less fuel — and at fewer decibels than in the past.

An important topic of debate in this sector of Farnborough will be the recent decision, albeit still with some qualifications, to allow the development of a short take-off and landing airport in the disused London docks only six miles from the centre of the city. This is bound to create a special interest in the two airlines which will initially operate into the London Stolport, the de Havilland of Canada Dash 7 and Dash 8, both of which will be on the flight line at the show.

From today until Thursday are trade days at Farnborough, when the airline chiefs, the military leaders, the ambassadors, and the politicians will be visiting to investigate the trends mentioned above. Friday, Saturday and Sunday are the public days.

To entertain them, there will be, not only the 70 aircraft in the flying display, but historic machines including a Spitfire, Hurricane, and Lancaster, and the Royal Air Force aerobatic team the Red Arrows in their BAE Hawks. It all looks as if it will add up to a vintage Farnborough show.

Arthur Reed

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## Flying with foreign partners

Starting rises in the cost of design, research and development, and production have forced more and more aerospace manufacturers into cross-border collaborative projects since the last Farnborough show so that there is today hardly one major aircraft-maker which does not have foreign partners, often based on the other side of the world.

In the sector producing commuter airlines, the Swedes are working with the Americans on the SF340, the Spaniards with the Indonesians on the CN-235, and the French with the Italians on the ATR-42. Parts for the current range of Boeing airliners arrive at Seattle from Japan, Canada, Northern Ireland, and dozens of different cities within the United States.

The growing European aircraft industry is based on the principle of international cooperation, and a fleet of three Super Guppy aircraft ferries large sections of airframes from factories in Germany, France, Britain, and Spain to the assembly line in Toulouse.

British Aerospace sends the wings of the A300 and A310 airbuses to Germany for completion, but in the case of the new 150-seater A320, which is now being tooling up, it will complete the wings at its Bristol factory, where the supersonic Concorde were made.

Disagreements over which country should "lead" such international projects, and suspicions that partners less able in technology would learn from their peers, and then take that knowledge to their own markets, were rife in the early days of collaboration, but seem now largely to have evaporated — although the French still appear anxious to go their own way with a design for a European fighter.

Even Rolls-Royce of Britain, and Pratt and Whitney of the United States, traditionally implacable enemies in the market for jet engines, have been forced to work together by the sheer impossibility of any one company, however large, being able to fund the development of the families of quiet, powerful, and economical powerplants which the airlines are demanding for the 1990s and beyond.

The V2500 which is being developed by a newly-formed company, International Aero Engines, not only has Rolls and Pratt working side by side, but has inputs too from the engine manufacturers of Japan, West Germany, and Italy. Rolls has also recently signed an agreement

for the transfer of technology on large engines for wide-body airliners with another of its old American rivals, General Electric which, in its turn, collaborates with the French engine manufacturer SNECMA to produce the CFM56 for 150-seater airliners.

But even with four powerful nations working together, as in Europe, finding the development funds for future projects presents problems, a case in point being the TA 11, a four-engine, long-range airliner, which France, West Germany, Britain, and Spain would like to start as a replacement for the ageing Boeing 707, now out of production.

## The willing partners to be courted

The cost of the TA 11 project could be as high as £1bn, and none of the partner manufacturers is confident of being able to obtain its share from its government so soon after obtaining funding for the A320.

New partners, willing to invest money to learn aerospace technology, are therefore being sought. The Japanese and the Chinese, both already heavily dependent on western aviation "know-how", are the obvious nations to be courted, but there are other countries with aerospace aspirations, among them Brazil, Romania, and Indonesia.

In the meantime, the aerospace manufacturers of the West are seeking to increase their efficiency and lower their costs through greater use of computerised design and machine-tool control, and the wider application to the airframe and engine structures which they are building of lighter, and in the long-term cheaper, materials such as carbon-fibre and other composites, and lithium aluminium.

There is no doubt that a large aircraft made almost entirely of composites, as opposed to gliders, some of which have been built of these materials for several years, will enter service before the end of the century, but as has been proved in the case of Lear Jet and its efforts to produce an executive jet of non-traditional aerospace materials, there are still a lot of problems to be solved along the way.

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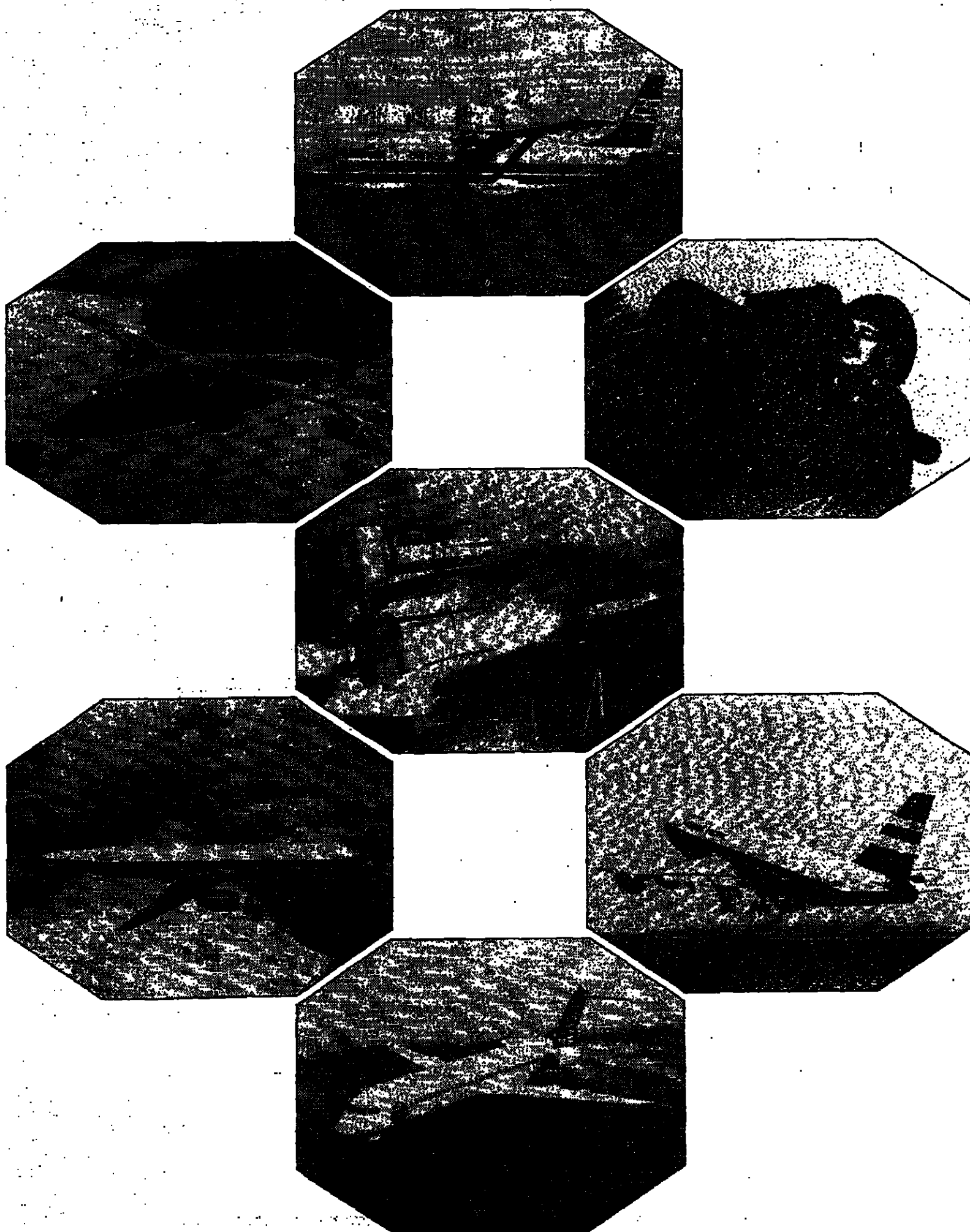
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## WORLD AEROSPACE

# British Aerospace, putting faith and money on the wing

With a number of new projects agreed during recent months, the British aircraft-manufacturing industry now has one of the most comprehensive ranges of civil and military aircraft, helicopters, engines and missiles in its post-war history. But it is continuing to find the market for these products slow as potential customers shake off the effects of world-wide economic recession.

Since the last Farnborough show the industry has shed some staff and closed some factories, but at the same time - conscious of the fact that the development period for new aircraft can be five years or more - has committed itself to investing enormous sums of money in its future.

The most significant investment came in the spring when, after months of uncertainty, the Government agreed to sanction loans of up to £250m so that British Aerospace could design and build the wing for the new European Airbus A320 airliner.

Bae had originally requested £437m from the Government, proposing to put in an additional £200m from its own funds, to meet the total cost of wing development of £637m. It is now finding the difference between that figure, and government loans, from profits, and from commercial loans.

In taking on this heavy financial load, and at the same time increasing the 20 per cent stake which it had in the two previous Airbus projects, the 300-seat A300 and the 220-seat A310, to 26 per cent, Bae reinforced its faith in collaboration with the European aerospace industry. At the same time, it proved that it is still able to build on its own by launching, at a cost from its own funds believed to be around £150m, the advanced turbo-prop (ATP), a "stretch" to up to 72 seats of its long-serving 44-seater 748 airliner.

The decision to launch the A320 was taken with 51 orders from five airlines, that to launch the ATP with no orders at all. The Bae 146 70/100-seat airliner picked up a prime customer in Pacific Southwest Airlines, of San Diego, California, with an order for 20, worth \$300m, with options on a further 25, but the hunt for

further buyers goes on up against formidable competition from the Americans and now the recently launched Fokker 100 twin-jet.

Bae recently completed an extensive sales tour with the 146 of China and other countries in the Far East.

The long-term nature of the aerospace business is proved by the continuing success of British Aerospace's 125 executive jet, the first version of which made its maiden flight as long ago as

the Civil Aviation Authority.

But the Jetstream is, or soon will be, up against a new generation of turbo-prop commuter airliners, such as the US-Swedish SF340, the West German Dornier 428, and the Spanish-Italian ATR 42, all of which are actively seeking airline funds. This also applies to the two commuter airliners being produced by Short Brothers, of Belfast, the 330 and the 360.

### The decision to launch the A320 was taken with 51 orders from five airlines

August, 1962. In the intervening years the *marque* has been progressively improved, and the latest 800 series is equipped with automatic flight control, and cockpit instruments displayed on cathode ray tubes.

Completing the Bae civil aircraft "family" is the Jetstream 31, a 19-seat twin turbo-prop which is beginning to sell well to small commuter airlines in North America, Australia, and now in Britain as new entrants to the airline industry are freed from licensing restraints by recent decisions by

These have sold well during the period while the foreign aircraft mentioned above were being developed, and all manufacturers are now watching closely to see whether airlines will continue to prefer the simple and rugged reliability of the Short products, or turn to the greater and more expensive sophistication of the contemporary designs.

Westland, Britain's only manufacturer of helicopters, is also in the thriving commuter business with its W30, a civil version of its military Lynx, which is in service in Los Angeles and New York. But



The latest version of the British Aerospace 125 business jet is the Series 800 which incorporates the new more powerful Garrett TFE 731-5 engines, improvements to the wings, and a reshaped rear fuselage. As a result, the range is increased to some 3,000 miles.

America's vast aerospace industry, boosted by the Reagan administration's rearmament programme, is at least in financial terms heading towards a year of consolidation and improving profitability boosted by a growing optimism that the world's airlines will soon begin a massive ordering spree.

Most of the signs are now pointing to a more healthy climate for the plane makers as the world's major economies pull themselves out of recession. More than \$100bn of civil aeroplane orders are reasonably expected to be placed in the next 10 years - and it is clear that the production and technological expertise and financial might of the giant US aerospace corporations will ensure that they prosper as a result.

Even a cursory glance at the latest financial statements of the big US companies - Boeing, McDonnell Douglas, Lockheed and Rockwell - reveals an expanding, optimistic and forceful sector of the US economy. It will also put into perspective the aerospace industries of other nations, even the pan-European Airbus Industrie consortium which is the only real competitor to the American industry.

Boeing, by far the world's largest jet airliner manufacturer - it has made almost 5,000 - announced pre-tax earnings for the first half of 1984 of \$259m against \$251 in the same period of 1983. The company said the rise was attributable "primarily to increased interest income and continued favourable performance on US Government programmes".

Mr T A Wilson, the Boeing board chairman, said the world's airlines had experienced a growth in traffic and projections indicated a significant improvement in profitability for 1984, but he stressed that the market for commercial aircraft remained extremely competitive. "There continues to be excess capacity, especially as it relates to wide-body jetliners and the competition for the balance of the market is very aggressive."

Such conditions, said Mr Wilson, continued to result in substantial pressure on prices and in some cases the requirement for trade-ins of older airplanes and financing commitments.

In recent months, business has picked up significantly for Boeing. In the first half of this year, civil aircraft deliveries totalled 68 planes against 127 a year earlier. After seven months, however, sales stood at 111 aircraft compared with 136 for the whole of 1983.

Boeing's sales to the US Government in the first half totalled \$1,955m, a rise of \$426m compared with a year earlier, and the company said confidently that growth in military sales was expected to continue through 1984 and into the foreseeable future.

The company's firm order book at the end of June was



A musical welcome from the 2nd Battalion, Parachute Regiment, for the near completed Boeing 767s at Seattle. The Paras had been on exercise with the US army.

## Is a massive buying spree on the way?

\$20.6bn, against \$18bn at the end of 1983, of which three quarters was for commercial customers, including foreign governments.

Another sign that conditions are improving comes from Boeing's decision, after several years of retrenchment, to begin hiring labour again. In 1982 and 1983, Boeing's Seattle workforce was being run down at the rate of about 10,000 a year, but this year the company plans to recruit about 8,000 workers.

Boeing and McDonnell Douglas are, on the civil side, now engaged in a fierce three-cornered fight with Europe's Airbus Industrie consortium for the jet airliner orders in the next decade. Lockheed, maker of the TriStar, has withdrawn from the commercial airliner business to concentrate on defence equipment.

But while the forecast amount of civil business available sounds impressive, it must be remembered that the plane makers have gone through an extremely turbulent few years. In the late 1970s, orders were landing on the aerospace companies at the rate of about 700 a

year but in 1982 the total dropped to 262 and in 1983 to 232.

Airlines are now hoping for better profitability and, in any case, will have to replace large numbers of aging and noisy jets towards the end of the decade with the new generation of high technology, less thirsty and much quieter aeroplanes.

According to Boeing estimates, the world's airlines will take delivery of 384 planes this year falling to 283 next year but rising to 503 in 1989. Of the latter, 363 will be standard body jets and 140 will be wide bodied. It adds that in the decade up to 1993 total sales of 3,850 aircraft will include short range models worth \$51bn and medium range worth \$40bn.

Boeing has a family of jets to offer, the newest being the impressive 757 twin jet. The 737-300, the latest version of the ever-popular short range jet, is selling well and Boeing has 400 and 500 derivatives planned. The latter will be a candidate for the new International Aero Engines power unit in which Britain's Rolls-Royce has a significant stake.

Westland's main sales and future development thrust continue to be in the military sector, and to this end the company flew its Lynx 3 prototype, faster and with a greater payload than previous versions, this summer.

Government funding to Westland of £41m for its W30, and of £60m for its part in the development of a civil version of the EH101 helicopter on which it is in partnership with the Italians was announced earlier this year. The EH101, due to make its maiden flight in two years' time, is powered by three American-made engines, and is being produced in naval and army versions, as well as the civil type, which will seat 30.

While British Aerospace reported profits for 1983 of £82m, Rolls-Royce, Britain's only aircraft-engine company had a net loss of £193m as the workforce was reduced, new orders sought, and new alliances forged.

Like the airframe manufacturers, Rolls has found it too costly to develop new engines on its own and has this year teamed up with its traditional US rival Pratt and Whitney, together with engine companies in Japan, West Germany, and Italy, to develop a new engine, the V2500, designed to power the new generation of 150-seat airliners, such as the European A320. At the same time, it has entered into a more limited transfer of technology with its other great American competitor, General Electric.

A lack of firm decisions on future military aircraft is bedeviling long-range planning in the British aerospace industry at present. Airframe, engine, equipment, and aviation electronic companies would welcome early indications from Government, as the end of Tornado production comes in view, on what role they are to play in the Eurofighter project, which of four competing trainers is to be selected for the RAF, and whether the single-seat fighter version of the Bae Hawk trainer, being unveiled at this Farnborough show, is to be funded into full production.

AR

The 737-500 may also be Boeing's answer to the Airbus A320, the 150-seater due to enter service in the spring of 1988. The all-new 7-7 model for this sector has been left on the drawing board - the market, says Boeing, does not justify the investment.

McDonnell Douglas also has shelved plans for a new competitor to the A320 and for the moment is relying on its successful MD-80 of which three models are now in production. Here again, a proposed version of the MD-88 seating up to 164 passengers would be equipped with the LAE engine.

In February, the MD-80 received a massive boost with an order for 67, worth \$1.3bn, from American Airlines, plus an option to buy a further 100.

The company this year also reversed its decision to phase out the DC-10 tri-jet when Federal Express, the US-wide parcels delivery business ordered six in a \$350m deal.

McDonnell, which went on the acquisition trail last year and bought, among other companies, Hughes Helicopters, boasted a 26 per cent increase in earnings in the second quarter of this year. This boosted the half-year figure to \$145.2m net earnings from \$121.4m a year earlier on sales that rose from \$4bn to \$4.57bn.

The company, like its other US counterparts, is doing well from military contracts. The F-15 Eagle fighter, F/A-18 Hornet aircraft carrier strike fighter, and the AV-8B Harrier II (the US version of the British jump jet) are, according to McDonnell, unmatched as a family by the competition.

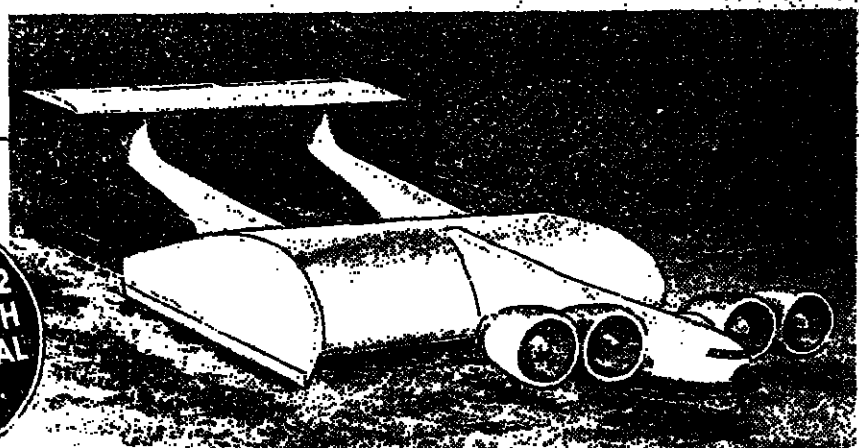
Elsewhere in the US industry, there have been some remarkable financial performances recorded by those such as Rockwell, Northrop and Martin Marietta. Rockwell, producer of the Space Shuttle, has been helped by the revival of the B-1 bomber programme. The first B-1B is due to be rolled out this autumn and the \$20.5bn programme involves production of 100 aircraft.

Lockheed, producer of the titanium-skinned Blackbird reconnaissance aircraft and the famous Hercules transport plane, has recovered spectacularly since ditching the loss making TriStar. Its net income rising by 22 per cent in the first half of this year to \$146.4m.

Last year, Lockheed announced its interest in building a new supersonic airliner in the 1990s once a suitable partner could be found. The company wants to get its civil business back to the 30 per cent level it achieved when the TriStar was in production and believes that a supersonic airliner bigger than Concorde could win customers in the rapidly growing Pacific Rim regions.

Edward Townsend  
 Industrial Correspondent

## FACT, FICTION OR FLIGHT OF FANCY?



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6 Boeing and McDonnell Douglas are now engaged in a fierce three-cornered fight with Europe's Airbus Industrie consortium for the jet airliner orders in the next decade. 9

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The Tornado shows off its crew - and its hardware

## Europe: the new force in aerospace

The successful launch last month from Kourou, French Guiana, of the Ariane-3 rocket carrying two European telecommunications satellites reinforced Europe's claim to be taken seriously as a world force in aerospace.

Its beginnings in the early years following the Second World War were inauspicious, as dozens of small companies vied their own and often competing ways with aircraft and engine projects, but in the middle 1980s the European aircraft industry has come together impressively and provides a balance to that of the United States.

Ariane provides a case in point. Were it not to exist, the nations of the Western world wanting to put hardware into orbit would be dependent upon the American space shuttle, and there would be no brake on the cost of each ride.

Early faults in the Ariane system, which produced two crashes in the programme, now appear to have been overcome as a result of the growing technological confidence which is evident within European aerospace, and there have now been five perfect lift-offs since June of last year.

European governments, notably those of Britain, West Germany, and France, have invested heavily the taxpayers' money to achieve a position in world aerospace, but justify this expenditure on the triple grounds of balancing the American effort, of job creation, and of the accretion of high-technology knowledge, in computers, in metals and other materials, in design, and in electronics, which has an impact

throughout a wide spectrum of other European industries.

European aerospace is certainly no cottage industry today, making simple products, and leaving it to the United States to initiate all the running in pure and applied research.

At the British Aerospace factory at Warton, Lancashire, a Jaguar bomber has been converted successfully into a "fly-by-wire" aircraft, that is, the mechanical links which connected the pilot's controls with the moving surfaces on wings and tail have been removed and replaced by electronic signalling via computers.

### Gearsticks both side of the pilots

A similar system is now to be found in the A320 150-seater airliner which is being developed by the European consortium Airbus Industrie. In addition, the airliner will be controlled by small sticks, the size of a gear lever of a motor car, in place of the traditional control columns.

The sticks are situated to the left and right of the pilot and co-pilot, leaving them an uninterrupted view of their instruments which are largely displayed on computer-driven cathode ray tubes, rather than on the traditional electro-mechanical dials.

Europe is now anxious to embark on two further technically-advanced, but highly-expensive projects: a European fighter, and a long-range, four-engine airliner, the TA II. Such projects show up one of the continuing weaknesses of the European

system, the need to obtain agreement of a number of partners, which is a time-consuming process, particularly when such enormous sums of investment money are involved.

While the talking continues the Americans prowl the European markets with their own excellent range of aerospace products, both military and civil. Although Airbus has stemmed the US tide, with the majority of the big European airlines choosing its products, the military scene is not such a happy one for the indigenous manufacturers.

Only the forces of the three partner manufacturing nations of the Tornado bomber, Britain, West Germany, and Italy, have bought the aircraft, and almost all air forces on the continent have the latest US fighters in their inventory, with the American F-16 being made in the Netherlands by the Fokker company.

In addition to the F-16, there are other examples of transatlantic aerospace cooperation - SAAB, of Sweden, collaborates with Fairchild, of the US to make a new commuter airliner; Shorts, of Belfast, makes parts for the Boeing 747. But overall today America and Europe are split into two aerospace camps.

It is a battle which is deeply felt by those who lead the two sides. As M. Bernard Lathiere, president of Airbus Industrie said when his consortium beat the Americans to a particular airline deal: "Little Red Riding Hood has bitten the wolf."

AR

Edward Townsend on why engine producers now have partners

## Marriages that must work

Collaboration has been the key word in any discussion of the world aero engine business in the past two years. But behind the comradeship there have been extremely hard bargaining sessions and some agonising heart searching as the manufacturers try to guess the future of their highly competitive markets.

None of the world's major engine producers, and very few of the smaller companies, are now without at least one partner, the most significant impetus to their marriages being the enormously high investments needed to develop new jet engines.

The rash of cooperation has also occurred at a time when airlines have been hit by the worst recession since the war and new aircraft orders have been scarce. Following successive oil crises in the 1970s and increasingly stringent noise regulations, operators have been demanding more fuel efficient, and quieter power units.

In the case of Britain's state-owned Rolls-Royce, brought to its knees in 1971 by the expense of developing the RB 211 engine for the Lockheed TriStar, going it alone was finally abandoned earlier this year when the company and its rival General Electric of the United States became risk and revenue sharing partners.

This highly significant deal, described by the Rolls chairman, Sir William Duncan, as a watershed for the company, gives each partner a share in the other's development of big engines in the 25,000lb-60,000lb thrust range.

At the same time, Rolls is taking part in GE's programme to develop the CF6-80C2 engine, the type of high technology unit for wide bodied jets such as the Airbus A300.

There are already four other partners in the GE development - Snecma of France, Volvo of Sweden, Motoren-und Turbinen-Union of West Germany and Fiat Aviazione of Italy. These four have a 20 per cent stake.

The Rolls/GE tie up was announced at the same time as the British Government said it would stump up some money for Rolls's planned stake in the V-2500 engine, a power unit designed for the coming generation of high technology 150-seat aeroplanes.

In May, Rolls was told that it could expect to receive only £60m of the £113m it had sought from public sources. In

total, the company's stake in the V-2500 engine is about 30 per cent.

The V-2500 project, originally involving Rolls and a group of Japanese aerospace companies, had already been expanded to include the arch competitor of the British company - Pratt & Whitney of the US, plus MTU and the Fiat subsidiary.

These two collaborative ventures should, it is hoped, ensure that Rolls maintains its position as the world's number three aero engine maker for the rest of the century. Without them, there is little doubt that as the weakest, Rolls faced a bleak future.

A further collaboration deal was announced towards the end of May when Rolls said it was sharing with Turbomeca of France the cost of a £100m helicopter engine development programme.

The engine, the RTM-322, will be a 2,100 hp turboshaft unit for use in aircraft like the planned EH 101 being produced by Westland and Augusta of Italy. It could also power replacements for the Wessex and Puma helicopters currently in use by the Royal Air Force.

Rolls has been in need of the kind of support to be gained from collaboration as it was so badly mauled by the recession in the airline industry. Four years ago it tooled up to produce 300 big civil engines a year but in 1983 received orders for only 30.

And it had the smallest slice of the world market - just 11 per cent of the 11,300 engines sold in the decade up to 1982 compared with Pratt's 68 per cent and GE's 21 per cent.

The three competitors all receive government funding in the form of defence contracts, but the huge spending on arms of the Reagan Administration has given GE and Pratt a much bigger home market than that of Rolls.

Pratt & Whitney, owned by United Technologies, was beaten to two military contracts earlier this year and saw a sales decline in the first quarter, but its total government sales still eclipses that of Rolls. In the first six months Pratt sold military engines worth \$2.38bn, some 29 per cent of the company's total.

### Future demand for aircraft and engines are now looking more optimistic

It was of course GE which broke Pratt's hold on the US jet fighter engine market when it won in February a one-year contract giving it 75 per cent of the Pentagon's orders for 1985. In July, GE won a \$1.58bn order from the US Air Force to provide 428 engines for the B-1B bombers.

On the civil side, as the fortunes of the airlines begin to revive, estimates of future demand for aircraft and engines

are now looking decidedly more optimistic.

Rolls believes that while real overall growth in the 15 years to 1998 in the airline business will be restricted by over-capacity to under three per cent a year, the retirement of old technology aircraft and engines could lead to a total requirement for more than 5,000 aeroplanes.

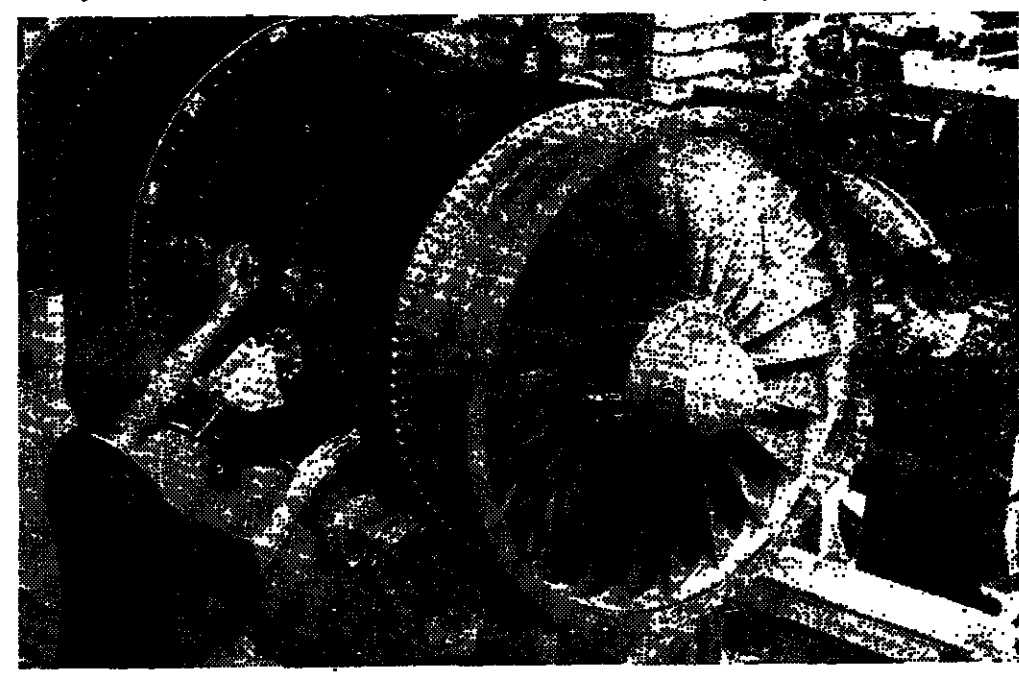
Of the 4,000 or so expected to be ordered between 1987 and 1997 some 42 per cent, says Rolls, will provide sales for new versions of Pratt, GE and its own big turbofan jets.

The total civil engines and spare engines market for the decade is put at nearly 12,000 units worth, at April 1983 prices, some £27bn.

Most of the engine producers are now giving serious consideration to a return to propellers, albeit high technology ones, to provide even more fuel efficient engines.

Rolls has been developing the advanced propfan concept for the 100-150 seat aeroplanes of the 1990s. Such units would use up to 40 per cent less fuel than the best currently available turbofans installed in aircraft such as the 737 and DC-9.

Propfans typically have 10 wide blades which are very thin and highly swept which allows for efficient operation at high cruise speeds and much lower cabin noise than with less swept blades. Work is also taking place on using counter-rotating propellers to reduce noise even further.



The first Rolls-Royce Tay engine being examined for its initial run.

# The Jewels in our Crown.

To call the Westland 30 a jewel is no mere flight of fancy.

It is quite simply the finest, most versatile helicopter in its class.

It has been highly successful in the UK. It's now making inroads into the notoriously difficult American market.

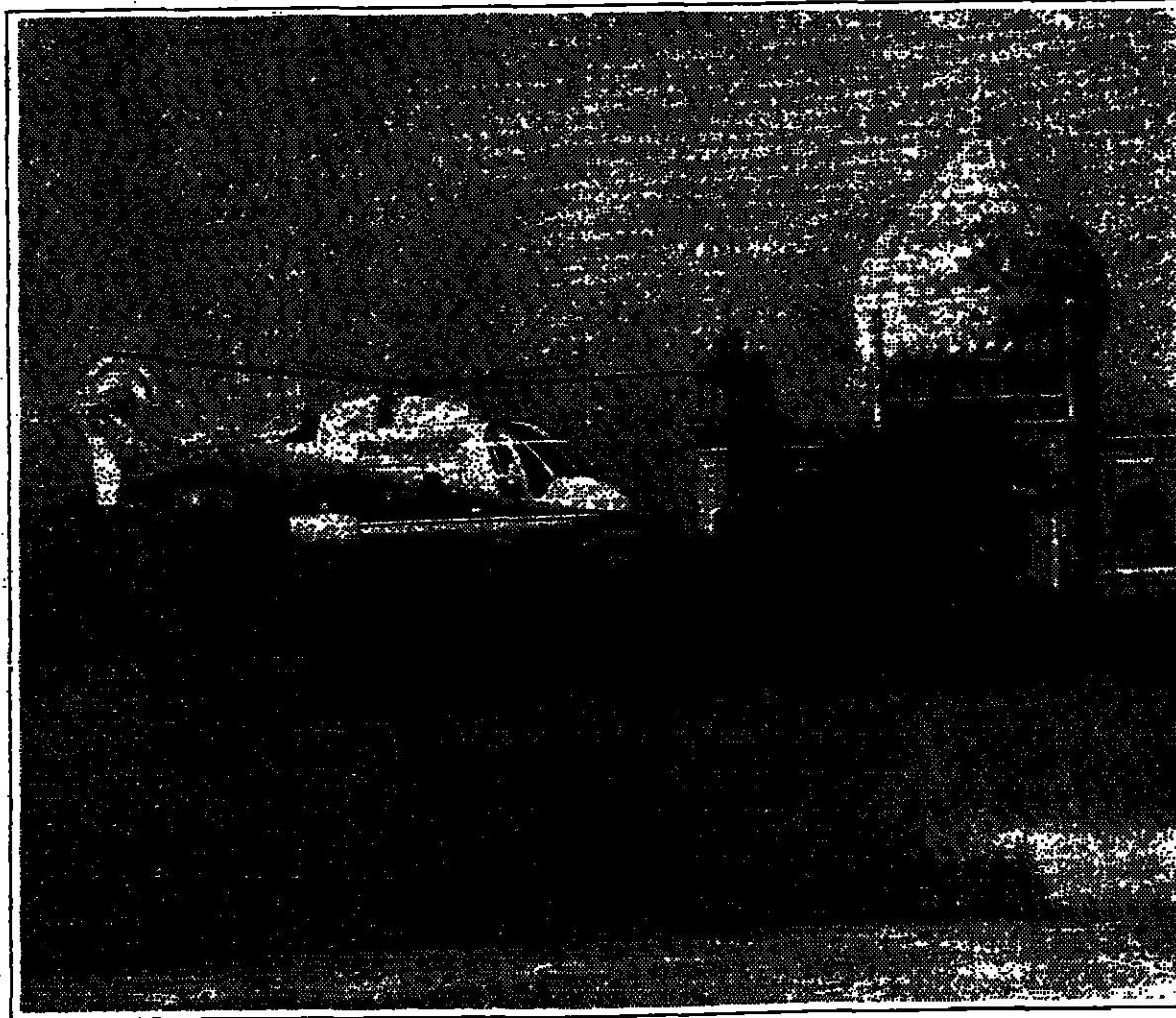
And today, even as you read this, it is the subject of intensive negotiations with the Indian government as well as many other customers throughout the world.

It's another jewel in the Westland crown. But only one of many.

**EH101** The world's newest helicopter being developed by Agusta of Italy and Westland of Great Britain - backed by both governments with both military and civil versions in its first generation.

**LYNX 3** An effective, heavily armed multi-mission helicopter for maritime and army roles - as an anti-submarine helicopter packing a heavy punch against surface ships, the battle proven Lynx can operate from small ships in the roughest weather, day or night. In the army role as a dedicated tank fighter Lynx is one of the most heavily armed helicopters in the Western world.

**SEA KING** Versatile, capable and effective, bought by nine countries, flown in many different roles and equipped with the most advanced



anti-submarine weapon system.

**A20** Our new A20 trainer aircraft, a joint venture with the Australian Aircraft Corporation, is the only turbo-prop trainer specifically designed to fulfil the needs of the world's Air Forces, well into the 1990s and beyond.

**AP1-88** In the civil field, the Westland AP1-88 can carry up to 100 passengers in air conditioned comfort, and is already winning export orders for Britain.

**BH7** Since building the world's first hovercraft, Westland have continued developing air cushion transport. The BH7 military hovercraft brings a new level of mobility and speed to the naval transport and fighting ability. And as a minesweeper, it is invulnerable and unbeatable.

**LONG LIFE HELICOPTER BLADES** A major advance in international helicopter technology, Westland designed helicopter blades

in composite materials are long-lived, need no maintenance, reduce operating costs and are available now for the Sea-King and S61 range of helicopters.

### WESTLAND TECHNOLOGIES

Normalair-Garrett, the heart of Westland Technologies is at the forefront of systems technology and has scored major successes in the USA - with the miniature digital data recorder on the F-18 fighter and OBOGS - selected for the B1B bomber to provide a continuous supply of oxygen for the crew without any storage on board - no heavy bottles, no dangerous liquid oxygen.

**THE FUTURE** We're working hard at Westland on products of the future - helicopters, hovercraft, advanced systems, all of which meet the world market for advanced transportation and systems. And we're constantly developing and improving our current range of products. It's the kind of constant hard work that has built Westland into the internationally known British company it is today. And the kind of hard work that will bring in the glittering prizes of tomorrow.

## Westland plc

Yeovil, England



## Getting a jigsaw off the ground

The process of creating a large jet airliner is a hugely complicated process involving not only safety and stringent quality control but also the bringing together of an enormous number of parts and components.

A vast multi-million pound world industry has been developed to supply the big aerospace companies. Most of the equipment supplied is as vital in terms of weight, passenger comfort and safety as the more readily recognizable engines or the airframe itself.

Airbus Industrie's headquarters at Toulouse in southern France like its American competitors has a series of interior mock-ups of its two wide bodied aeroplanes - the A300 and A310 to demonstrate to potential customers the type of interior furnishings that are on offer.

Rows of different coloured seats, some harder - which the Germans like - some softer, for the French, can be tried and compared. The range of galley equipment and configurations, toilets with folding or sliding doors, and handles to assist hand-capped people - all items

that have to be considered in detail both for cost factors and service to the customer.

Competition is fierce among the suppliers and has intensified during the world recession. According to Airbus, customers no longer demand equipment from their own national industries; quality and price are now more crucial.

However, in the field of high-technology ancillary aircraft equipment, Britain's Lucas Industries figures largely in the industry and is an undoubted world leader.

### Lucas is still hit by recession

Lucas Aerospace produces all sorts of bits and pieces ranging from computerized wing mechanism controls for the Tornado multi-role combat aircraft to engine ice protection systems. Last year Lucas's sales of aerospace equipment were worth £255m, some £16m lower than 1982 but the slowing down of redundancy and the improvement of efficiency saw the company increase its pre-tax

profits to £15.4m. Lucas turnover was hit particularly by Lockheed's decision to end the TriStar programme, which involved big purchases of Lucas equipped Rolls-Royce RB 211 engines, and the stretching-out of Tornado orders.

Despite its world renown, however, Lucas continued to be affected by recession. At the end of last year, Alan Watkins, general manager of the aerospace division, said: "Although there are some signs of recovery in passenger traffic the airline industry continues to suffer from low yields and excess capacity and we see little prospect of a substantial upturn in civil aircraft orders before 1985."

In March the company announced interim aerospace equipment sales of £125m and profits dipped before tax by £2.3m to £6.3m. Nevertheless, Lucas notched up some notable successes including an engine pod contract for the Gulfstream III won against strong domestic US competition.

Others recorded by Mr Watkins include actuators and ball screws for the Advanced

Medium Range air-to-air missiles (AmRAAM), air valves for the new Boeing 737-300, a digital electronic fuel control for the Fiat ARCO auxiliary power unit fitted to the Italian AMX fighter, electro luminiscent cockpit lighting for the Saab-Fairchild SF 340, and engine intakes complete with electrical de-icing for the CN-235 commuter aircraft.

On a smaller but no less important scale are numerous companies providing specialized aircraft equipment. An example is Gravier, the Slough-based subsidiary of Alleghany International, which recently introduced what it claimed was the world's first microprocessor based engine fire-detection system.

### Another giant of the industry

The system, which incorporates a single micro chip to analyse information and monitor potentially dangerous situations, is designed for civil and military use. Gravier says that malfunction is "virtually eradicated" because of the reliability of digital electronics.

Dunlop, like Lucas, is another giant of the motor industry not always associated with aircraft systems, but which provides considerable earnings. Dunlop's pioneering work on carbon brakes landed it the plum contract to provide an initial 100 sets of wheel and brakes for the new Boeing 757 airliner.

Boeing has an option to buy another 200 sets which could bring the total contract value to £200m and Dunlop is investing a total of £15m at its Coventry plant to boost capacity for the two contracts.

The company claims that while the revolutionary carbon brakes cost triple the amount of conventional steel brakes they last three times longer and are 1,200lb lighter. Dunlop is now hoping to win the brakes contract to equip the Airbus A320, the 150-seater aircraft due later this decade.



● A310, Airbus Industrie (Europe). Product of a European consortium led by France, West Germany, and Britain, this 220-seat airliner is now proving itself in service, and is contesting sales with Boeing around the world. A long-range version, the series 300, is being developed.



● Sherpa, Short Brothers (Britain). This is the military version of the Short 330 airliner, and the first of an order of 18 was handed over last month to the United States Air Force. USAF will use the Sherpa to fly engines and other spares around its bases in Europe.

Spot the plane. Here is a cross-section of the aircraft you will see at Farnborough.

● F-20 Tiger Shark, Northrop (United States). First flight of this development of the F-5 fighter was in August, 1982, and the manufacturer is looking for customers world-wide. Tiger Shark is powered by the GE F404 turbofan, has advanced avionics electronics, and a Mach 2 (over 1,000mph) top speed.

● Lynx 111, Westland (Britain). Latest in the "family" of helicopters, developed originally under a joint Anglo-French accord. Westland is producing Lynx 111 in both army and naval roles, and is to fit it with advanced-technology rotor

blades made of composite material. Company will also be showing the civil version of the Lynx, the Westland 30.

● SF340, SAAB-Fairchild Sweden-United States. Joint product of two aerospace manufacturers on either side of the Atlantic, this 35-seat commuter airliner was certified, and went into service, this summer. Crossair, a Swiss airline, was the initial customer.

● B737-300, Boeing (United States). Powered by the US/French CFM56 engine, and due to be certified next month, the 737-300 symbolizes a trend to bring older types up to date with new power-plants and electronics. Its competitor from Europe is the Airbus A320, still in the early stages of development.

● Tornado, Panavia (European). Both the Interdictor version (in service) and air-defence version (being developed for the RAF) are being shown by British Aerospace, partners in the project with aerospace companies in West Germany and Italy. The RAF is to

## Put yourself on the spot at Farnborough

resolve 185 interceptors to replace existing, aging fighter types.

● CN-235, CASA (Spain) and Nurtanio (Indonesia). Representative of a new generation of commuter airliners made under the terms of international partnerships, the CN-235 first flew in November last year. It is a 40-seater, twin turbo prop, aimed at both civil and military markets.

● EMB-120, Embraer (Brazil). This 30-seater, twin-turboprop commuter airliner first flew in late 1983, and is now undergoing

its flight-testing, with initial deliveries due early next year. A number of US commuter airlines have expressed interest in a type which is likely to have a low price tag.

● Mirage 2000, Dassault-Breguet (France). The latest in a long line of Mirage planes from this manufacturer, both the 2000 Interceptor, which flew in late 1982, and the

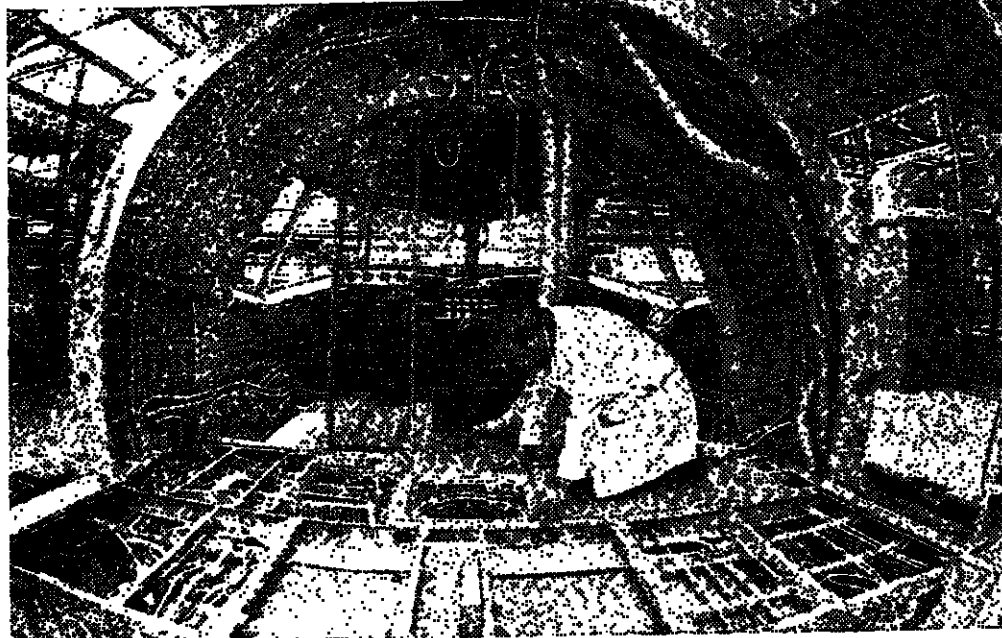
later 2000N two-seat strike aircraft will be shown. The first squadron of 2000s is forming, while the 2000N will enter service in 1985, armed with nuclear missiles.

● Skyship 500, Airship Industries (Britain). This is the larger version of the Skyship 300 airship which appeared at Farnborough two

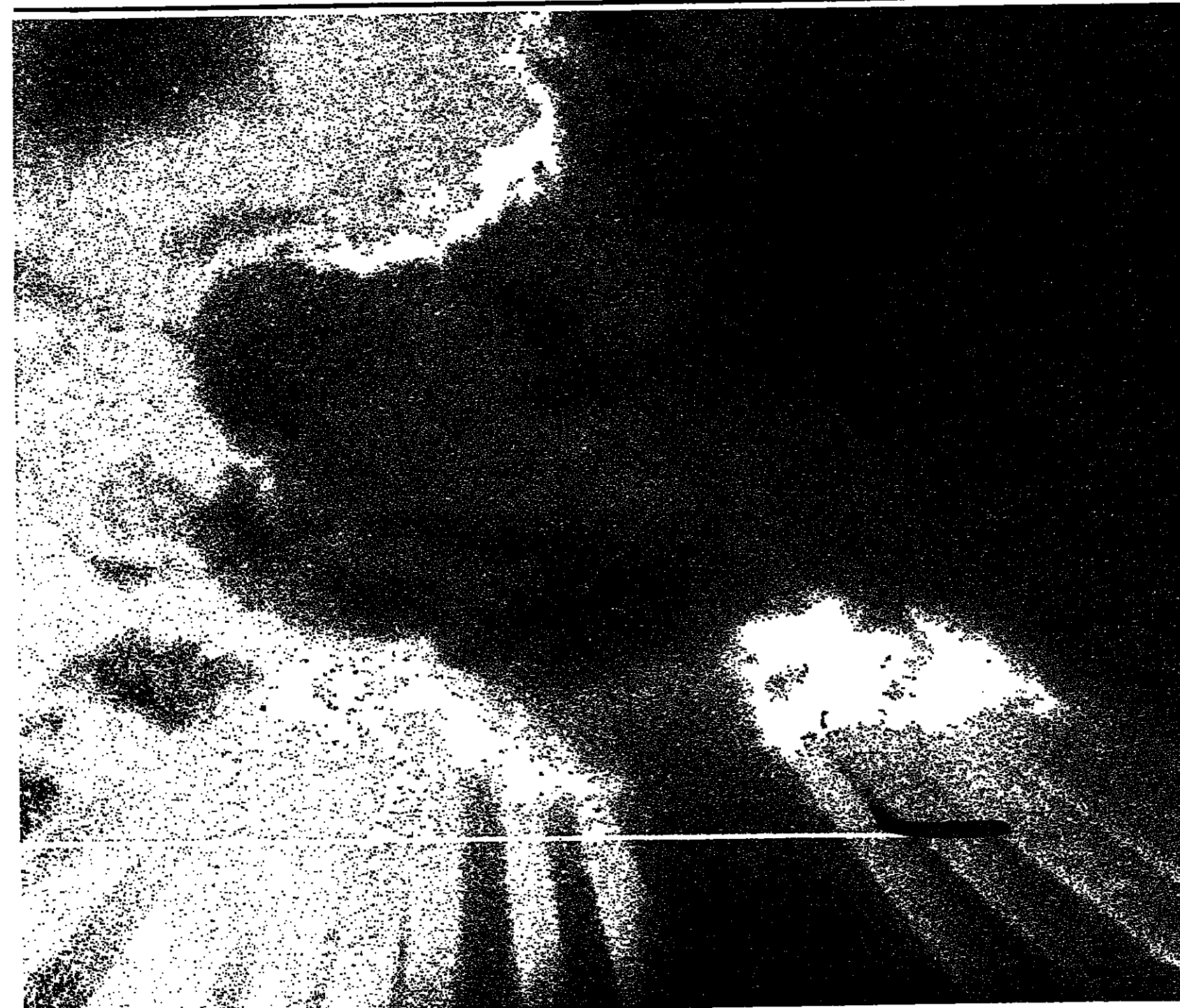
years ago. Being produced at the old airship base at Cardington, Beds, projected uses include, TV camera platform, maritime reconnaissance, and sightseeing.

● Mi-86, Ilyushin (Soviet Union). Russia's answer to the American "Jumbo Jet", the Mi-86 can carry up to 350 passengers, but is believed to be range-limited at such weights. A more powerful engine is said to be under development, which should also bring the plane within new European noise rules, due in January, 1985.

● Mi-26, Mil (Soviet Union). The latest product of Russia's major helicopter design bureau, the giant Mi-26 is on offer as a civil airliner, but defence observers at Farnborough will be assessing its obvious military roles.



Nose job: a passenger-jet interior being assembled at British Aerospace factory in Hatfield, Hertfordshire



## Plessey Systems in Aviation at Farnborough International '84.

Aviation is a major example of a market in which Plessey technology has been in the forefront for fifty years.

Today, commercial aircraft flying with more than 25 major airlines, and military aircraft serving in more than 50 of the free world's airforces, rely on Plessey systems and equipment.

In defence, Plessey has considerable experience as a prime contractor for multi-million pound projects, and a systems

capability covering radar, intelligent displays, communications and avionics.

The establishment or updating of airports and the provision of comprehensive air traffic control systems are other important areas where Plessey technology is playing a leading role.

Plessey - reliability in the air, and on the ground - at the Farnborough Air Show - September 2-9.

**PLESSEY**

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British Aerospace's anti-aircraft missile, the Rapier: facing obsolescence by laser weapons?

Weapons development, like that of aircraft, is cyclical, generation following generation. The two, however, are out of step. Missile manufacturers are now in a period of intense activity, working on sophisticated new weaponry with which to arm the generation of combat aircraft designed during the 1970s.

Their aim is to produce weapons which will enable an attacking aircraft to stand back from its target, out of range of enemy air defences. By finding its own way to the target, such a weapon increases the chances of the aircraft and its crew surviving to fight another day. The development of stand-off weapons is a high priority for Nato, which realizes that its stock of highly expensive strike aircraft will not last long against heavy Warsaw Pact air defences.

There are two methods of producing a stand-off weapon. The first is to make a missile so accurate that it can place a large warhead directly on target hundreds of miles away. This is the principle behind the cruise missile. It is an expensive option.

### Two best forms of guidance

The second method is to fill the missile with small warheads, called submunitions. When released over the target, these warheads scatter over a wide area, obliterating any error in aiming the missile. This is particularly effective when the submunitions have some form of terminal guidance so that they can home on to small, moving targets such as tanks.

The two most popular forms of terminal guidance are infrared and radar. Infra-red, or heat-seeking, has the advantage of being completely passive and therefore undetectable. Technology has advanced sufficiently to screen out decoy targets such as flares, a failing of early heat-seeking systems. Infra-red has disadvantages, however. It works well both day and night when the air is dry, but moisture scatters the heat emitted by a target, so that rain and fog can prevent it being seen. It is also possible to generate special hot smoke screens which mask targets.

A better solution where weather is unpredictable is to use radar. By using high frequencies, the radar seeker can be made small enough to fit inside a missile. So-called millimetre-wave radar is difficult to jam and can be highly accurate, but it is expensive. Both approaches are being pursued. The US Air Force, for example, is developing an anti-tank warhead called Skeet (it looks and flies like a clay pigeon). This has a small, infrared sensor which, when it detects a hot spot - say the engine compartment of a tank - instantly triggers a high explosive charge.

## Zap! How lasers are changing the rules

This forges a disc of super-heavy metal into a high velocity slug aimed directly at the heat source. The result is devastating. Skeet can be flung from a falling canister or fired into the air from a land mine.

Millimetre-wave radar will be used in the terminally guided warhead to be developed for a mobile rocket launcher which is to equip several of Nato's armies.

Such is the cost of developing this warhead that five nations are collaborating - Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, and the United States - and still it will not be ready until the beginning of the 1990s. International collaboration within Europe on the development of weapons is now commonplace. Transatlantic co-operation is less widespread, and is fraught with problems. The increasing cost of weaponry makes such joint ventures inevitable, however.

It is also inevitable that cost will pace the development of such weapons. Each increase in stand-off range brings a rise in the development and acquisition costs. The result is a slow, if progressive, evolution of weaponry towards the ideal.

Today, weapons on the verge of entering service carry a range of unguided submunitions, including runway-cratering bombs and area-denial mines. Had Britain's new JP233 airfield attack weapon been available to the Falklands task force, the Port Stanley runway would have been put out of action in no uncertain fashion.

JP233 and other similar submunition-dispersing weapons, are only released once they are empty. This means that the attacking aircraft must overfly the target to discharge its load of submunitions. The next logical step is to make free-flying containers which can be released to glide the last few miles to the target.

Once that has been perfected, the containers can be powered, either by small jet engines or rocket motors. This will require an autopilot and onboard navigation system to ensure that the weapon stays on course. It is then only a small step to long-range stand-off missiles dispensing terminally guided submunitions.

At this point the distinction between such a long-range stand-off weapon and a cruise missile becomes blurred. The air defences now being developed to counter cruise missiles will almost certainly be turned against such stand-off weapons. This includes lasers.

### The advantage of speed

Much is claimed for high-energy lasers and other beam weapons, but they have yet to be proved effective. Given American concern over perceived advances in Soviet laser technology, however, it seems inevitable that such energy weapons will be developed.

The major advantage that lasers have over surface-to-air missiles is that the beam travels at the speed of light. In the time taken for a missile to reach just one target, a laser could destroy several. To be effective, however, the beam must remain on target long enough to cause damage.

Laser energy dissipates as it passes through the atmosphere, so terrestrial beam weapons are likely to be more effective at short ranges. Here again the speed with which laser weapons react is an advantage - if they can be made small enough to be as mobile as today's surface-to-air missile systems.

There are reports that the Soviet Union is already preparing to field lasers for use against aircraft. The stand-off missile may give the aircraft a new lease on life, but may itself be in danger of eventual extinction.

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# New airliners for old, but where will the money come from?

According to the International Air Transport Association, the world's airlines are set to make a profit of round £190m during 1984, and a further profit of £150m next year, after returning consistent losses during the years 1979-82 which peaked at £1.4bn in 1981.

This reversal of fortunes, following the end of the recession, and the stabilizing of fuel prices, is insufficient, however, to provide the industry with the capital which it badly needs for large-scale investment in a new generation of airliners which will ensure low operating costs in the future.

There are exceptions. Airlines like Lufthansa and Swissair have managed to continue to renew their fleets during the economic downturn, but there are many other operators whose average fleet age is rising, with the result that they have higher maintenance costs, and suffer from what is known as "market resistance" - which means that potential passengers object to travelling in old jets, and take their business elsewhere.

New and stricter noise regulations at airports in the United States from January 1, 1985, and in most parts of Europe a year later, are adding to the pressures on the airlines to change their old airliners for new, and the lack of investment capital is forcing many into complicated leasing deals, so that many of the airlines in which you may fly today and in the immediate future will not be owned by the airline whose crest is on the tail, but by a consortium of international banks and finance houses.

Many of these deals contain options for the airlines to return the aircraft to their real owners after five years, or even less, instead of writing them down over 15 years, as has traditionally been the case with equipment owned by the carriers.

And where the lease deals involve airlines such as the McDonnell Douglas DC-9-80, or the Boeing 737-300, which are improvements on designs which originated more than a decade ago, it gives airlines the options of watching the progress of the new generation of airliners, and

notably the Airbus Industrie European A320. Both the DC-9-80 and the 737-300, and its predecessor 737-200, continue to sell remarkably well, and the debate among the airlines continues as to exactly when they will become outmoded. Both manufacturers plainly consider that date some way off, for although each has considered a new 150-seater, and has plans in an advanced stage on the drawing boards, neither has so far decided that the state of the market calls for the massive investment that is required - a decision which the Airbus consortium took earlier this year.

In the wide-body sector of the world airliner market, there is a head-on scramble for sales between the A300-600, and the A310, of Airbus, and the 747, from Boeing, with the 747 "jumbo" from the latter stable continuing to sell well after 15 years, and without any real direct competition.

This situation could change radically, however, if the manufacturers and the airlines are successful

in their campaign with the aviation authorities on either side of the Atlantic to have wide-body airliners powered by only two engines accepted as safe to fly over long stretches of ocean, and in particular the North Atlantic and the Pacific.

Flying such sectors with two engines rather than the four of the 747 would obviously be highly attractive for the airlines in operating costs, and if the plan is sanctioned, as seems likely, it could eventually erode long-term sales of

the 747 in favour of the extended-range versions of the 767 and the A310.

This would continue the trend of the airline industry to favour smaller "packets" of passengers at higher frequency of service, which has become apparent during the past two years. Although Boeing has extended the upper deck of its 747, it now appears unlikely that the 600, 800, even 1,000-seaters which were canvassed only a few years ago will materialize in the foreseeable future, although the British Airports Authority is probably wise to build stands able to take such monsters into the new Terminal Four at Heathrow, due to be opened for service next year.

Meanwhile, the airline industry as a whole is enjoying a vintage year for business, and particularly in the cargo sector. The weak pound against the US dollar has had the effect of filling transatlantic airliners to capacity with both people and air freight, and the result of that has been to harden fares and rates - although it is still possible to obtain

cheap trips across the Atlantic on specialist operators such as Air Europe and Virgin, and by the way, Freddie Laker, and his low-fare drive of the 1970s.

But although it is doing better, air transport still has not emerged from the effects of the turbulent economic weather through which it has been flying.

Mr Kurt Hammarfeld, director general of IATA, said recently that there was "still a long way to go" before it achieved the sort of results expected of other major industries. He warned that the airlines will have to spend £130bn between now and 1993 on new aircraft, spares, and other fixed assets, pointed out that they are still owed \$650m in blocked currencies by countries, mostly in Africa, and said he saw a danger that as the government in the United States gave up the regulation of the industry, this role would increasingly be taken over by the courts.

AR

## The smaller nations in the aero race

Brazil's aerospace industry did not exist when man first walked on the moon. Today it can count four world-class aircraft of its own design and 3,000 aircraft delivered.

Embraer, the Brazilian company concerned, is celebrating its fifteenth birthday show with a military turboprop trainer so good that it has been short-listed by the Royal Air Force and adopted by Shorts of Belfast.

This sort of performance is not unique among the young aerospace industries of the South, the term aviation often uses instead of Third World. Aerospace design capability can be claimed by Argentina, India, Indonesia and Israel.

Other countries have competent aerospace industries, and do not consider themselves South or Third World. Australia, Canada, China and Japan. The smaller European countries can also claim aerospace competence, though only Britain and France possess complete industries. Among the most original of the small Europeans are Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.

The "rest of the world" aerospace industry is difficult to define. A little country like the Netherlands holds the European record for airliners sold (700-plus Fokker F27s) while a huge country like China has yet to

export a plane of its own design. So we shall look at the countries which, like Brazil, have succeeded in threatening the markets of the aerospace big powers with aircraft of their own design.

They all share a common worry, which is accentuated by the continuing failure of West Germany and Japan to catch up the complete aerospace industries of the United States and the Soviet Union and even those of Britain and France.

Whatever may be the measure which places Germany and Japan among the industrial world leaders, it is not aerospace. Both countries have sought to catch up by massive investment, mostly in design co-ops and licence agreements with the Americans, British and French, and by buying in engines and equipment. This method has been used by the other outsiders, some of whose taxpayers must be wondering when the costly industrial student will ever fly solo.

Some of the poorer nations have invested billions in the most advanced western machine tools - to cut under licence components which were outdated in the market 10 or 20 years ago. This is leading to disillusionment, especially in countries whose debts to the west have already become



Boeing 747s and 767 at the company's Washington plant.



Two of the young aerospace countries show their aircraft above. Indonesia's CN 235, and left, Brazil's Bandeirante, Xingu and Tucano.

the Xingu VIP twin (chosen by the French defence ministry).

Canada: the de Havilland company's successful family of light transports will be sold hard at the show. The latest, the 34-seat Dash 8, will do well to outsell the 20-seat Twin Otter (800 delivered) in the hotly contested commuter-liner market. The four-engined 50-seat Dash 7 has scored an orderbook of 150. Like many competitors of all nationalities, the de Havilland family is powered by Pratt & Whitney Canada turboprops.

China: Having turned her back on the Soviet aerospace industry, on which she had become dependent, China has been looking more and more towards the American, British and French for engines and equipment. The air force operates MiGs (or Chinese developments such as the Q-5 Fantan) but the airline CAAC

flies Boeing 707s and 747s, British Trident, and French helicopters. China has designed and flown two civil transports, the Y-10 (closely resembling the 707 and with the same P & W JT3D engines) and the 18-passenger Harbin Y-11T "Twin Otter" (also with P & W engines).

Czechoslovakia: This Soviet associate industry can be proud of its LET-410 light turboprop transport and L-39 light jet advanced trainer. Both have been bought by the Russians.

Dalla: As well as licence-producing MiG fighters, French helicopters, Anglo-French Jaguar bombers and British and German light transports, India has shown its design capability with the HF-24 Marut, super-sonic fighter, HJT-16 Kiran jet trainer, and SLV space rocket. A new turboprop aircraft, the HTF34 has just flown and is due to be shown at Farnborough.

Israel: The Kfir jet fighter, developed from the French Mirage, is to be replaced by a multi-role combat aircraft named Lavi. Israel's capable industry, though heavily reliant upon America for engines, has

produced the Astra. The Westwind has had a significant run in the US market, though sales have slowed by recession.

Indonesia: The CN-235 commuter-liner, a 40-seater with aft-loading doors, is being designed and built by Indonesia's Nurtanio in partnership with Spain's CASA, parent of the successful 212 thirty-seat DC-3 replacement - which Nurtanio builds under licence. Though burdened by heavy debts, Indonesia has a huge domestic market for the CN-235.

Poland: PZL-Mielec is building Russia's Antonov An-28 light turboprop 20-seat transport under licence. Poland's most notable design is the TS-11 Iskra light jet trainer.

Romania: The British One-Eleven production line has been taken to Bucharest by Romania's ambitious industry, which is building the airliner for home and export markets. Only a shortage of funds is holding up re-engineering with Rolls-Royce Tays in place of Speys. The Romanians also have the IAR-99 jet trainer.

Sweden: The ability of this small country to design and produce world-class fighters, albeit with American engines, continues to impress. The latest super-sonic Swedish fighter, due to replace the formidable Viggen, is the JAS-39 Gripen. Saab has also joined US Fairchild to design and produce the 340, first of the new-generation commuter-liners to enter service.

Switzerland: Pilatus, owner of Britten-Norman and its successful Islander family, is at Farnborough with a contender for the RAF trainer order.

JMR



THE WORLD'S FIRST NAME IN ENGINEERING



THE TIMES

## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

# Rebuilding investment after the debt imbroglio

In three weeks the cream of the international financial world will gather in Washington for meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. As at the London economic summit, the leading countries will be most concerned with damage limitation.

Much will be heard of the need to protect the international banking system from the perils of the second round of the international debt imbroglio, so that economic recovery may be safeguarded as it spreads from the United States through Europe and the Far East to complete its virtuous circle among the developing countries.

There will be plenty of self-congratulation about the successes of the case-by-case approach to debt rescheduling, which has helped to dissipate the aura of crisis and leave the balance sheets of international banks with a veil of credibility.

Bankers, ministers and officials will discuss at length the correct combination of stick and carrot required to persuade recalcitrant debtors to come into line and accept the IMF and bankers' condition of harsh domestic deflation in return for more permanent and sustainable debt service agreements. They will point to success stories like Mexico, whose cathartic adjustments have rehabilitated its economic pride and potential. They will make concessions on terms to the combined bargaining power of Latin American countries to head off any residual temptations to renege or formally default.

Last week's annual report from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad), a collective lobby for developing countries, presents, by contrast, an almost unrecognizable version of the same situation.

The picture it paints is of a slump that has been amplified in developing countries, followed by a recovery that promises instead to be dissipated by the peculiarities of commodity markets, protection and the reversal of normal capital flows.

Last year, as the developed world set out on recovery, Third World output fell by 1 per cent, the third annual fall in output per head for many developing countries, though there are striking divergencies between different groups.

"The outlook for 1984 and 1985 is not particularly bright," reports Unctad. Moreover "prospects that increases in export earnings will be translated into higher levels of imports and higher rates of growth are considered to be limited, owing to a likely stagnation, or even decline, in net financial flows to developing countries."

That is the crux of it. The amplification of depression in developing countries is nothing new. The logic bears some hallmarks of the problems of outlying regions of developed countries. Falls in the prices of primary export commodities determined on free markets are exaggerated by the sensitivity of demand to price changes, prolonged, in the current phase, by the continuation of high anti-inflationary interest rates straight through to the recovery phase without any noticeable break.

The concentration of rapid economic growth in the United States is certainly inconvenient for primary producers, who rely far more on exports to resource-hungry Europe and Japan. Unctad would like to see the US cut its budget deficit to help interest rates while Europe and Japan raise their spending - an unlikely prospect.

But it is the financial repercussions that make the real difference. The debt crisis, set off by the effect of high and rising interest rates on variable rate debt contracted through banks since the oil price explosion of 1973 has not merely landed many countries with debt service payments they find hard to meet. It has consequentially led bank lending to dry up as banks' fears for their own balance

sheets coincide with their sensible doubts over borrowers' ability to pay.

Last year, non-Opec developing countries made net repayments of \$13 billion to banks, representing a startling reversal of the historic trend of capital flows as well as savage domestic retrenchment.

To make matters worse, attempts to alleviate this squeeze by boosting exports on the back of IMF imposed devaluations are among developed countries in already encountering resistance among developed countries in the form of quotas or accusations of dumping.

The Unctad report concludes sweepingly, if familiarly that "the continuing critical situation in many parts of the developing world is linked to basic weaknesses in the post-war systems of trade and payments that call for its reordering and restructuring". It is noticeable - and a worrying precedent - that countries like India less closely bound up in the world economy have fared better than more open Third World countries.

Such all-embracing calls to change the rules when they start to hurt are not likely to carry much weight in the developed world or enhance Unctad's already shaky reputation for practical realism. After all, the pleas of six of the top seven economies, the European Commission and the IMF show no sign of having any effect on United States domestic fiscal policy - the immediate cause of high interest rates.

Countries such as Britain which have been through relatively drastic anti-inflationary adjustments know they are a necessary response to slack financial disciplines and self-defeating price instability, not merely an unfortunate aspect of the international financial system.

Newly industrialized countries in the Far East have managed to come through the maelstrom by their own efforts with stronger trading positions and enhanced credit-ratings.

Whether overborrowing by Latin countries and others was more the fault of their own governments or international banks may be argued indefinitely. Neither complained of the unprecedented funds made available by private sector recycling of Opec surpluses - although some Opec countries are now prominent among the critics.

That money would not have been forthcoming to finance unprecedented development in the 1970s at anything but the variable rates at which the banks were obliged to borrow.

Unctad's complaints do, however, raise two important issues for the long-term future of many developing countries and for the world economy as a whole. One, familiar in Europe a couple of years ago and still unresolved, is how to cope with the destabilizing interaction of widely fluctuating exchange rates, exchange rates floating in a sea of hot money and the consequent trend to manage trade through quotas.

The other concerns the future shape of capital flows to the developing world. From the old colonial empires to the nineteenth century build-up of the United States, capital to finance investment has traditionally flowed from established financial centres to economically newer territories which offer greater prospects, risks and returns.

There have been temporary interruptions in previous financial crises. Sounder domestic policies to foster greater savings, particularly in Latin American countries would help. But it would be illogical to seek to reverse the historic pattern of capital flows and unlikely that voters in developed countries would put with the extra imports needed for developing countries to balance their trade.

Graham Searjeant  
Financial Editor

## THE GILT-EDGED MARKET

# July lessons for monetary policy

Gordon Pepper

My overall assessment of the prospects for the gilt-edged market remains the same, as that expressed in the first of these articles in January.

The bullish forces associated with an upswing of the business cycle will be muted in the United Kingdom but exaggerated in the US and, if the dollar stays firm, there is bound to be upward pressure on British interest rates when US rates are rising significantly.

In my judgment, and in spite of the 1½ per cent fall in US bond yields since the end of May and the recent evidence of a slowdown in US economic growth, the US bear market is not yet over.

The crucial question for our market is the extent to which we will be able to avoid following US rates upwards. The lessons from July in this respect are ominous, as regards both the pressures which were allowed to develop and the way the authorities reacted.

The Governor of the Bank of England gave a detailed account of what happened in July at an important interview with Sarah Brown in *The Times* on August 1.

He confirmed that "present policy", and has long been, to put primary emphasis on the maintenance of monetary targets and to allow sterling to find its level in the market.

He also claimed that there is no target for the exchange rate,

although the authorities "do take into account in interpreting the monetary aggregates what sterling's behaviour tells about domestic monetary conditions".

The Governor reiterated the authorities' judgment that "the domestic monetary situation was then, and is now, satisfactory" and that "there was no case for a rise (in interest rates) in the domestic monetary situation".

It is important to note that this judgment was made in the knowledge of sterling's weakness and the bad data for the money supply which were published in July.

Why then did the authorities raise interest rates by no less than 3 per cent? The Governor's answer was: "It was impossible to resist the market pressure that was then developing... There was such a strong move in the markets that failure to act would have been dangerously misunderstood. It would have been seen as indifference to counter-inflationary policy, and the credibility of monetary policy."

With the benefit of hindsight it is clear that the trouble in June, when United States short rates rose rapidly and those in

Britain lagged too far behind. By the end of June, short rates were more than 2 per cent below those in the United States.

At a time when the dollar was strong, so large an interest rate differential made sterling accident-prone. The dock strike and bad, but unrepresentative, money supply data happened to be the principal accidents.

There is nothing wrong with letting British interest rates get out of alignment with those in the United States as long as the authorities have a well-thought out policy for dealing with any exchange rate pressure that unexpected and transient events may induce.

An obvious response would be to support sterling by using the foreign exchange reserve. This is wholly appropriate if the cause of the pressure is transient.

A second but more risky response would be a clearly announced policy of benign neglect. Providing that the Bank does not intervene at all, to smooth the fall in the exchange rate (and so avoids giving speculators confidence that they will "make profits") sterling should quickly bounce back. A third policy would be to react quickly and decisively on

Lloyds Bank emerged last night as a possible snarler for Scrimgeour Kemp-Gee, the leading London stockbroker, after weekend reports linked Scrimgeour with Citicorp, America's largest banking corporation, in a £50m deal.

A spokesman for Scrimgeour, which this year ranked top for British research in the annual Continental Illinois 'stock-brokers' survey, confirmed that the first had held talks with Citicorp.

He stressed, however, that these formed part of a range of discussions with a number of financial institutions, including Lloyds Bank and Schroder Wagg.

He also dismissed the £50m takeover valuation as a shot in the dark.

"We have been talking to a lot of people for a long time now, and we have narrowed the list down to a shortlist of perhaps three names. An im-

portant partners' meeting is likely shortly to thrash out all the details of any deal. We hope to make an announcement in the near future. But the situation is still very fluid."

But he added that it was perhaps inevitable in the present climate that the firm should lose its independence.

Early this summer, it is understood that it prepared a mini-prospectus of its broking strengths, in conjunction with merchant bankers Baring Bros, which was then circulated to a small number of possible suitors.

Scrimgeour has 70 partners, of which 37 have an equity stake.

According to the spokesman, a deal with Schroder Wagg looked fairly unlikely, since the merchant bank had just received grudging Stock Exchange approval to set up a new stockbroking venture, Helbert



Sir Jeremy Morse: no deal with broker yet

a Scrimgeour link. "We never comment on rumours," he said.

Lloyds Bank, whose chairman is Sir Jeremy Morse, is the only one of the big four not to have arranged a broking link, so that any deal with a first-class firm like Scrimgeour would make excellent commercial sense, assuming the bank had opted to follow the other clearers into setting up broking-jobbing links.

Any speculation surrounding a possible Lloyds-Scrimgeour link emphasizes that an intense poker game is now building up in the London market between the three first division stockbroking firms which are still independent - Scrimgeour, Phillips & Drew and Cazenove - Lloyds, which has still to make an investment.

Such is the volatility of the present situation that come claim a merger between Phillips and Drew and Cazenove cannot be ruled out completely.

## US NOTEBOOK

# Financial markets mark time

From Maxwell Newton  
New York

The focus of attention in the financial markets is increasingly on the Federal Reserve. Until there is a crack in the Fed's present restrictive policy, it is unlikely the rally in bonds and stocks will continue, or that the dollar will decline.

Since the middle of May, the "adjusted monetary base", banks' reserves and currency, has hardly changed. In mid-May the monetary base was more than \$212 billion (\$261 billion in the week of August 29 it was \$212 billion).

This freeze on banks' reserves has led to a freeze on money growth. Between the week of May 21 and the week of August 20, the level of money M1 has risen from \$545 billion to \$547.9 billion. There has been little movement in the money stock for three months.

The impact of the freeze on banks' reserves has been more striking than those held aggregate might suggest. Since the second week of May, the level of banks' borrowings from Federal Reserve banks has risen from just over \$1 billion to the latest reading of \$8.356 billion in the week of August 29.

Of that increase of about \$7.5 billion in borrowings from Federal Reserve banks, virtually every cent has gone to the support of the troubled Continental Illinois Bank.

So in the last three months there has been a substantial decline in the reserves available to the banking system, excluding Continental Illinois.

Since the end of May there has been a strong increase in the interest rate on federal funds, the overnight money traded between the banks. Funds were trading below 10 per cent at the end of May. Today they are trading at about 11½ per cent.

In line with the rise in funds, there has been an increase in the yield on short-term Treasury bills. The yield on 90-day Treasury was 9.7 per cent at the end of May. Now it is 10.6 per cent.

Short-term interest rates have risen despite the decline in all bond yields. The yield on long-term Treasury bills has fallen from 13.8 per cent at the end of May, to 12.4 per cent now.

This has not affected the short end of the market, where the Fed's policies are having an impact.

# CBI survey finds output expanding

By Our City Staff

British manufacturing output in the second quarter may have continued to expand despite the miners' strike and in contradiction to the output trends in official figures, according to the Confederation of British Industry.

It paints an encouraging view of the economy in its latest manufacturing and economic trends survey to the end of August, but the survey also finds that British export competitiveness is worsening.

That comment finds an echo in the latest Lloyds Bank *Economic Bulletin* which gives a warning that Britain's current account should move further into deficit during the 1980s unless export competitiveness improves sharply.

The CBI survey, taken before the dock strike, points to a continuing upward trend in manufacturing output during the second quarter, a view which conflicts with government figures showing a fall in output.

Consumer spending, non-oil exports and investment - where data exist - all rose over the same period, although some destocking took place.

The survey indicated continuing steady recovery in manufacturing, although the

pattern of recovery is changing, with more emphasis on rising activity at the heavier end of industry.

The CBI adds that its latest regional reports also point to continuing rising orders and activity. The report concludes that government figures, which show a ½ per cent fall in second quarter output, after no growth between January and March, may well be revised later.

Investment is also forecast to contribute heavily to the recovery. This year, manufacturing, housing, North Sea and other private investment are forecast to grow by more than 10 per cent each in volume terms.

Investment growth also depends heavily on renewed increases in consumer spending. But the survey does not rule it out, given that a low inflation rate - no significant upward trend is forecast - should help to boost the personal sector's real offer - tax income.

For 1984 as a whole, British output could grow by an average of 2 per cent; further growth of some 3 per cent is expected next year. The average measure of GDP should expand by about 2½ per cent this year, and by some 2½ per cent in 1985.

# Lloyd's call to prosecute denied

By Jonathan Clare

Mr Ian Hay Davison, the chief executive of Lloyd's of London yesterday flatly denied that he had written to the Prime Minister and other government ministers to complain that no prosecutions had been brought against those involved in Lloyd's reinsurance scandals.

He said: "There is no truth at all in the story that I have written to the Prime Minister. If such a letter were to be written it would come from the chairman, not from me."

A newspaper report yesterday said he had written to Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, and Mr John Selwyn Gummer, chairman of the Conservative Party.

Mr Davison also denied that he had hinted he would resign unless action was taken. He said there had been rumours in Whitehall but they were untrue. "There would be no point. What good would it do? I'm here for three to five years and I've only done 18 months of that."

A report that Lloyd's results, due out this week, would be down by £100m was quite wrong, he said.

# Chubb set for battle

Chubb, the lock and safe manufacturer, has promised "robust" rejection of Racal Electronic's £146m takeover when it issues its formal defence document this week.

Talks will take place today and tomorrow between Chubb's directors and its financial advisers, County Bank, whether to include in the document a profit forecast for the year to the end of next March or reserve the traditional defence ammunition for a later stage.

## STOCK EXCHANGES

Change on week  
FT-SE 100 index: 1103.9 up 16.7  
FT index: 853.7 up 16.9  
FT 1000: 79.75 down 0.01  
FT All Share: 520.47 up 17.36  
Bargains: 19.346  
Datastream USM Leaders  
index: 102.04 up 1.0  
New York Dow Jones Industrial  
Average: 1217.64 down 12.15  
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones index  
10,584.20 up 30.11  
Hongkong Hang Seng index  
826.76 up 33.09

## BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY: Interims: Arrow Chemicals Holdings, Automotive Products, EIS Group, Electro-protective, Hawley Group, Insight Group, Jersey Electricity, Kean & Scott Holdings, Macfarlane Group (Clansman) (amended), J. N. Nichols (Vinto), Wace Group.  
Finals: Consolidated Plantations (amended), London & Garmore Investment Trust.

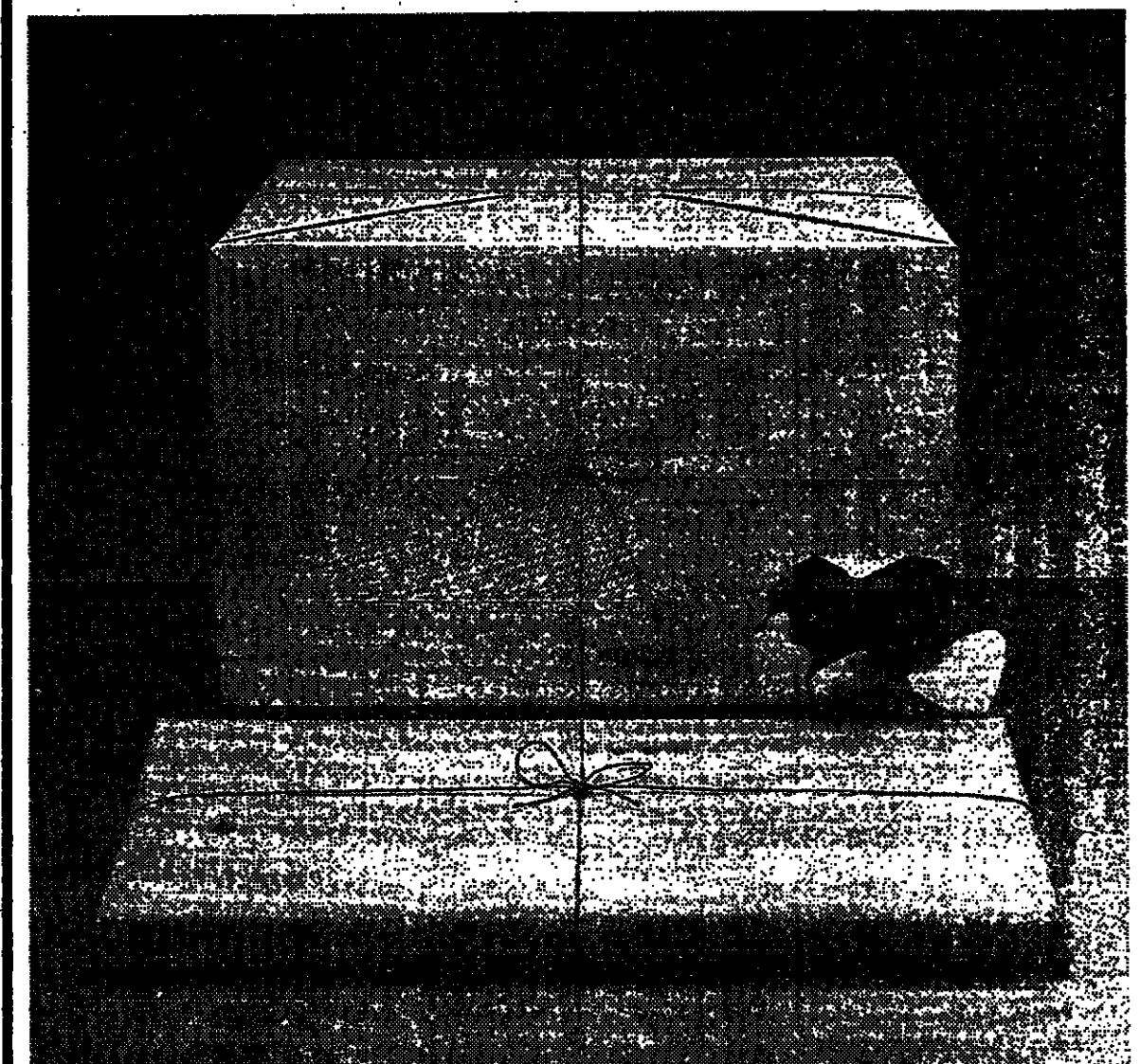
TOMORROW: Interims: James Beattie, Brook Street Bureau, Derek Crouch, Federated Housing, Kleinwort, Benson, Lonsdale, Lambert Howarth Group, Metal Closures Group, Mordin & Peacock, Provident Financial Group, Robinson Brothers (Pyders Green), Ropner, Sharpe & Fisher, Connolly Wilson Holdings, Finalists: Centra F Copson, David Dixon Group, Land Investors Raglan Property Trust, Ricardo Consulting Engineers.

WEDNESDAY - Interims: BICC, Cement Roadstone Holdings, Guardian Royal Exchange, Keep Trust, Linread, P & O Pleasurecraft, Reckitt & Colman, Sun Alliance and London Insurance, Finalists: Estates Property Investment Co, Framlington Group, Minerals Oils and Resources Shares Fund Inc, VW Thermax.

THURSDAY - Interims: AC Cars, Anglo American Gold, Benson Crisps, Booker McConnell, Bracken Mines, Bridon, BP, Bunzl, WM Collins, Cookson Group, Fredland Doggart, Hayters, Hepworth Ceramics, KCA Drilling, Kinross Mines, Ladlow Group, Leslie Gold Mines, New England Properties, Pentos, Sedgwick Group, Unisel Gold Mines, Wadkin, Winkthorpe Mines.

FRIDAY - Interims: Coal Petroleum, Stewart Wigham Holdings, Tavenor Rutledge, Finalists: Haynes Publishing Group, Samuel Heath & Sons, Sheldon Jones.

## DATASTREAM



# COMMODITIES

## FUTURES WRAPPED UP IN ONE NEAT PACKAGE.

GRAPHICS

STORIES

WORKING DATA

TRENDS

ARBITRAGE

CORRELATIONS

CONTRACTS from 15 EXCHANGES

ECONOMIC DATA

INTEREST & EXCHANGE RATES

NEWS SERVICES

01-260 8000



## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

## Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Today. Dealings End, Sept 14. Contango Day, Sept 17. Settlement Day, Sept 24.  
 † Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.  
 (Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

## THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page.  
 If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.  
 You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Price last Friday	Change on Friday	Gross Dividend pence	% P.E.
1	BANKS DISCOUNT HP	27.00	+0.12	0.12	8.7
2	Brown Shipley	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
3	Guinness Ltd	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
4	Chart & Rotherchild	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
5	Amstacher (Hearst)	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
6	King & Sharron	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
7	Stand Chart	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
8	Hamberly	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
9	Sevenside M	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
10	Freemantle	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
11	AB Elect	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
12	Emest Lighting	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
13	MK Elec	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
14	Plessey	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
15	Arden Elec	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
16	Patrol Elect	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
17	Electronics	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
18	Ward & Goldstone	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
19	System Designers	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
20	GEI	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
21	Apex	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
22	Centromer	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
23	Jermain	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
24	Br Land	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
25	Cap & Counties	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
26	Brigham	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
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98	Brigham	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
99	Brigham	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0
100	Brigham	10.00	+0.05	0.05	10.0

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's Newspaper.						
MCH	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS					
Stock out- standing £	Stock	Price last Friday	Ch'ge on week	Int only yld %	Cr R yld















## RUGBY UNION: BRIDGEND WIN SEVENS AND FRENCH WIN FRIENDS

# Kings of jungle – for the moment

## Anfield's fate as strong


**SEVEN COUNTIES MERIT TABLE:**  
 Portsmouth 3, Essex 5.  
**SOUTHERN MERIT TABLE:** Havant  
 Maidenhead 10; Henley 29, Newbury 3; Me-  
 15, Staines 8.  
**EASTERN COUNTIES MERIT TABLE:** Nor-  
 6, Southend 25; Sudbury 10, Thurrock 5.  
**TRUMAN C.B. MERIT TABLE:**  
 Abbotstonians 9, Tottonians 4.



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The British Aerospace Hawk 200 fighter (left), and Mr Brian Rowe of General Electric, with the company's unducted fan engine, (Photographs: Suresh Karadia and Murray Job)

# Chapple says his men will work normally

NUM dispute would enhance the credibility of the TUC because it will concentrate the minds of unions "and hopefully of their members" on the issues at stake.

Privately, however, some union leaders expressed doubt that what amounts to an obsessive interest in the pit strike will improve public opinion of the TUC.

mothers seek a way out of a **Roger Boyce**

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## Bae to spend £100m on 'stretched' jetliner for commuter routes

British Aerospace yesterday announced a £100m larger version of its successful three-engine 146 regional jetliner - claimed by the company to be the world's quietest jet - which could create several hundred jobs.

The company said at the Farnborough Air Show that it would launch a "stretched" version of the 146, each costing about £14m, in 1988. The aircraft, 18ft longer than the first 80-seat 146 which flew in

1981, will carry up to 130 passengers.

British Airways could be using the jet on some of its low-density European routes. The new 146 puts Britain back in the ranks of the world's airliner manufacturers.

Mr John Glascock, director of the Bae civil division, said the company had been under pressure from airlines to develop the 146 to cope with larger payloads in the world's commuter routes, particularly

in the United States.

The 146 is designed and assembled at Hatfield, Hertfordshire, from assemblies delivered from four other Bae plants in Bristol, Manchester, Humberside and Prestwick. Mr Glascock said that if the larger version proved a success, new jobs would occur across the civil division.

The 146 components provided by two risk-sharing partners - Avco Aerostructures of Tennessee in the US, which makes the wings, and Saab-Scania in Sweden, which produces the tailplane and all control surfaces. The engine pods are built by Shorts in Belfast.

The plane is powered by Avco Lycoming engines and is known by Bae as "the whisper-jet".

The new 146 will be complemented by a freighter version. Like its two previous versions, said Bae, the new aircraft will operate at flight cost levels "well below those of most other jet transports now in widespread regional and trunk services".

The aircraft's increased capacity is expected to reduce operating costs per seat-mile to well below those of twin jets of comparable size and would approach levels achieved by many of the new 140-150 seat aircraft, according to the company.

Since its launch, the 146 has cost £400m in development and sales have reached 38 firm orders and 43 options from seven airlines and the Royal Air Force.



Mrs Thatcher welcoming Dr FitzGerald on the steps of 10 Downing Street

## FitzGerald in EEC talks

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Irish Prime Minister, spent three and a half hours trying to unscramble the EEC budgetary mess with Mrs Margaret Thatcher at Downing Street yesterday.

But there was no hint of progress at the end, more than two months after the Fontainebleau summit at which heads of government thought they had cracked the problem.

The Irish Prime Minister, whose country holds the presidency of the EEC Council, is holding a number of meetings with the other Community leaders to discuss EEC issues.

Britain is still quarrelling with her partners over what was actually agreed at Fontainebleau, with Mrs Thatcher insisting on the primary need to save more and spend less.

Meanwhile the European Parliament has once more blocked payment of Britain's £472m rebate for 1983 until this year's cash crisis has been sorted out. Britain is hoping that the EEC Budget Council will put pressure on the Parliament as a result of its next meeting on Thursday.

The two leaders agreed to hold another of their regular meetings on the Irish problem later this year.

Dr FitzGerald has already held meetings with Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany, and President Mitterrand of France. He is next due to discuss the issues about EEC enlargement with the Prime Ministers of Spain and Portugal in Dublin and Lisbon respectively.

● Dublin has called off a reception arranged with the New York police band which took part in a march with IRA sympathizers at the weekend.

The pipe and drums band of the Emerald Society attached to the New York Police Department led a march in Bundoran, Co Donegal, 10 miles from where Lord Mountbatten of Burma was murdered by the IRA five years ago.

The march was to commemorate the deaths of republican hunger-strikers.

The New York band ignored pleas from the Dublin government and Irish police not to take part, even after it was pointed out that 11 policemen in the republic had lost their lives in recent years to terrorism.

## Mont Louis loss spurs calls for cargo rules

By Tony Sanjaag

The sinking of the French freighter Mont Louis off the Belgian coast nine days ago could become "another Torrey Canyon", according to scientists and lawyers.

As the Torrey Canyon, which went aground in the Channel in 1967 carrying 118,000 tons of crude oil, alerted the public to dangers of oil pollution at sea, so the loss of the Mont Louis's radioactive cargo "could have a similar impact as regards the dangers of other hazardous substances", Dr Viktor Sebek, secretary of the Advisory Commission on Pollution of the Sea (Acops), said yesterday.

Acops, an international watchdog body representing shipping and environmental interests, has called for regulations requiring "the notification of movements of ships carrying nuclear materials and other toxic cargoes". An early notice system, which Acops compared with the old yellow flag signifying a case of yellow fever on board, would also make salvage operations less hazardous.

Dr Richard Sandbrook of the International Institute for Environment and Development, said: "Sadly, the world only puts risk environmental risks when there is a disaster. Hopefully in this case, while no great damage seems to be likely, the international community will respond by tightening up procedures all round."

The UN International Maritime Organization instigated controls of sea traffic in hazardous substances based on the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (Solas) and the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code.

Both codes deal with the construction of ships and containers, navigational practices and definitions of hazardous substances, including lightly radioactive wastes of the sort carried by the Mont Louis. The various IMO guidelines on reporting-in systems for ships carrying dangerous cargo are voluntary.

## Dossier on shot men questioned by coroner

By Richard Ford

Police files on the death of two unarmed terrorists they shot shared differences in statements made immediately after the killing and evidence given during a murder trial earlier this year, a deputy coroner alleged yesterday.

Mr James Rodgers, deputy coroner for Armagh and Craigavon, announced that inquiries on two Irish National Liberation Army terrorists shot by the Royal Ulster Constabulary would be postponed to allow further inquiries to be made.

Mr Rodgers, a solicitor, made his allegation concerning the files 11 days after the coroner, Mr Gerry Curran, resigned saying he had discovered "grave irregularities" recorded in them and as a result was not prepared to preside at the inquest on Seamus Grew and Roderick Carroll, shot dead in Armagh city in December, 1982.

The coroner for Fermanagh and Omagh, Mr Rainey Hanna, is to hear the case. Because the deputy chief constable of Greater Manchester is conducting an inquiry into allegations of a police cover-up Mr Hanna has decided against going ahead with the inquest which was planned for later this month.

## Troops leave for big exercise

About 270 men with 70 vehicles and 60 trailers yesterday sailed from Dover to Zebrugghe in Belgium as the first sizeable contingent out of 56,000 troops who will cross the Continent in the next two weeks to take part in Exercise Lionheart.

This is Britain's largest peacetime exercise designed to practice the reinforcement of the British Army of the Rhine and to take part in manoeuvres involving more than 130,000 people.

Yesterday's group were mainly men of the Second Battalion, Royal Irish Rangers. Similar numbers will cross tomorrow and Thursday.

## Giant Haystacks hit teenager

The TV wrestler, Giant Haystacks, who is 7ft tall and weighs 40st, was yesterday fined £75 and ordered to pay £35 costs after he admitted hitting a 16-year-old boy.

Haystacks, who appeared at Huddersfield Magistrates' Court, Greater Manchester, under his real name of Martin Austin Ruane, said he hit William Stephens after the teenager "put his face into mine and tried to belittle me".

Haystacks, of Bland Road, Prestwich, Manchester, admitted assaulting Mr Stephens and causing him actual bodily harm. But he said he did not intend to injure anyone.

## Hopes rise as BR meets unions

British Rail and the two main railway unions are to meet tomorrow in a further attempt to head off next week's threatened disruption of services because of union protests over job cuts in the industry.

The two sides are meeting in a hotel near Brighton where the two unions are attending the TUC conference.

## Butterfly nearly high and dry

The dry weather yesterday hampered efforts to move the rare silver-studded blue butterfly from its breeding ground near Ipswich to new sites at Piper's Vale and Alderburgh in Suffolk.

Many of the sand-and-heather turfs carefully cut from Warren Heath broke up as they were loaded on to lorries by more than 50 volunteers. Experts were confident, however, that enough eggs would survive.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$2.50; Belgium 8 to 10; Canada \$2.50; France 8 to 10; Germany 8 to 10; Greece 8 to 10; Hong Kong \$2.50; India 8 to 10; Italy 8 to 10; Japan 8 to 10; Korea 8 to 10; Malaysia 8 to 10; Mexico 8 to 10; New Zealand 8 to 10; Norway 8 to 10; Philippines 8 to 10; Singapore 8 to 10; South Africa 8 to 10; Spain 8 to 10; Sweden 8 to 10; Switzerland 8 to 10; Taiwan 8 to 10; Thailand 8 to 10; Turkey 8 to 10; USA \$2.50; West Germany 8 to 10; Yugoslavia 8 to 10.

## Boeing to develop US heavy-lift helicopter

Boeing has been given \$70m (£53.8m) by the US Government to build what will be the largest heavy-lift helicopter in the world.

The aircraft, shelved by the Nixon administration, and now approved by President Ronald Reagan, will be able to carry 35 tonnes. This covers every piece of equipment to be used by the US Army except its main battle tank.

Boeing's announcement has overshadowed the arrival at the Farnborough Air Show of the Russian Mi-26, an Antonov twin-twin cargo aircraft representing the first air show exhibit in Britain by the Russians, who are keen to negotiate technology

transfer deals with Western aerospace companies.

Boeing's twin-twin helicopter is being developed under a deal with the US Army, Defence Department and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The Mi-26 entered service in 1983 to handle outside loads in construction projects in remote areas of the Soviet Union and to support army units.

The Russian confirmed yesterday that the Mi-26 and the Antonov would take part in air displays on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, but it is unlikely that the aircraft, the flagship of Aeroflot, the Russian airline, will take part.

The largest helicopter in use in Britain is the Boeing Chinook which can lift 10 tonnes. Its uses include North Sea platform ferry work.

## Teachers militant on eve of pay report

By Colin Hughes

Teachers, who started the new term yesterday by taking sanctions in schools, will hear the result of their pay arbitration by the end of this week.

The action, which forced some schools to send children home early on the first day back after the summer break, is in protest at alleged delays in setting up arbitration to settle the pay dispute.

Employers have called the action pointless, because it cannot speed the arbitration decision but leaders of the 235,000-member National Union of Teachers, which is operating the sanctions, clearly hope to maintain last term's mood of militancy up to the end of this year's pay round.

Although the independent chairman of the arbitration panel, Professor Eric Armstrong, declined to set a date for the decision, union leaders have been told it will be within two or three days.

The employers refused to offer more than 4.5 per cent, saying they could not afford to pay. Teachers are demanding 31 per cent to restore salaries to levels comparable with 1974.

The arbitration decision will be sent to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, who has confirmed that he will publish it immediately. He must decide whether the Government will find any extra funds for employers if the award is higher than 4.5 per cent. If he wants it overturned he must take the issue to Parliament, an unprecedented step which would be certain to provoke instant strike action by teachers.

Sir Keith has said throughout that there is no more money available, and if the arbitrators award more than 4.5 per cent he will probably insist on local education authority employers finding spare cash by economizing elsewhere.

## Setback to reforms for mentally ill

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The Government has had largely to abandon, at least for the time being, plans to provide greater safeguards for the mentally ill which were due to come into effect next month.

The move comes after a boycott by social workers of a new examination they had to pass to prove competence to deal with the mentally ill.

Under the original proposals, announced last year, only social workers who had passed the examination would have been empowered to sign detention orders under the Mental Health Act.

The aim was to ensure that other options to compulsory detention in hospital were considered by social workers with specialist expertise in mental health work.

The examination has been boycotted, however, by social workers belonging to the National and Local Government Officers Association.

The boycott has meant that only 1,000 social workers will have passed the examination, against the 3,000 or more that local authorities believe they need to operate the new system.

Yesterday the Department of Health and Social Security announced that to meet the crisis, local authorities will be able to approve many existing social workers to sign detention orders, if they have received the training before the examination.

## Tender touch for backs

Injections of a substance similar to meat tenderizer used in cooking could avert the need for surgery for many back pain sufferers.

The new treatment, approved recently by the Committee on the Safety of Medicines, could help to reduce the 31 million working days lost as a result of back trouble.

The method, Discolysis, involves injection into the spine of a drug which dissolves the jelly-like blister on the disc that causes the pain.

Experts say the cost is half that of conventional surgery. Omnisc Surgical, an affiliate of Travon Laboratories, has been granted the licence to use the drug in Britain.

## Straw-burners wooed back to the plough

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Ministry of Agriculture scientists are working in Cambridgeshire with machinery manufacturers to make the plough popular again.

In the middle of a huge field a few miles from Cambridge, strips of land have been ploughed to different depths with a variety of implements. At the end of this month they will be seeded and during the winter the growth of the crop will be recorded.

The purpose is to discover the best way to incorporate subsoil straw into the soil without damaging the soil's fertility.

Farmers are convinced, and the evidence supports them, that clear burning of straw and stubble is the cheapest method of disposal and provides a near-

perfect seedbed for the new crop.

But public opposition to the pollution and danger has led to restrictions on burning, and the urgency with which the ministry is examining alternatives suggests that a complete ban is not far off.

Dr Bryan Davies, regional soil scientist of the ministry's Agricultural Development and Advisory Service made it clear yesterday that a return to ploughing would involve extra costs in fuel, machinery and labour. The need was to show farmers how to keep costs to a minimum and ensure that yields did not suffer unduly.

On light soils, the difficulties were fewer than on the heavy clays of East Anglia, where chopping and ploughing-in

some three tonnes of straw an acre presented a formidable challenge.

"I have no doubt in my mind that ploughing is a retrograde step," he said. "But, if it is forced upon us, we have to do it as well as possible."

Trials so far seemed to disprove the idea, prevalent in West Germany, that large applications of nitrogen in early winter were essential. That would not only save money but would please conservationists concerned about high levels of nitrates leaching into streams and rivers.

Officials yesterday seemed to agree that there had been far fewer complaints about straw-burning this summer than in previous years.

## Muted response to Scargill picket call

By Glen Allan

The National Coal Board claimed last night that only one out of every 14 striking miners turned out in response to a call by Mr Arthur Scargill, leader of the National Union of Mine-workers, for a fresh impetus on picketing.

A trickle back to work by miners in Yorkshire, Scotland and Kent was accompanied by a muted response from pickets.

The back-to-work trend was most marked in Kent, where the National Coal Board claimed that 26 men faced "considerable violence" from about 200 pickets when they reported for work at Tilmantstone colliery, near Dover. A further four men clocked on at Betteshanger. Previously there had been no miners working in Kent.

In Scotland the number of miners at work passed 200 for the first time. Out of the 205 the NCB said had clocked on, 145 were at Bilton Glen.

Privately, NCB industrial relations chiefs were surprised that the reaction to Mr Scargill's call was not greater. In a

confidential internal memo to Mr Ian McGregor, the chairman, they expressed satisfaction that the union could "muster less than 10,000 pickets out of a total number of 140,000 striking miners".

The NCB has never before put together an analysis on an area-by-area basis of the NUM's picketing power, but as the time for the start of the first shift arrived yesterday, they began the picket count.

According to the board's area-by-area estimate, the number of miners who turned out for picket duty yesterday breaks down as follows: Scotland: 470 pickets on duty. North-east: 230. North York: 800. Doncaster: 600. Barnsley: 1,200. South Yorks: 760. North Derbyshire: 1,500. North North: 230. South North: 45. South Midlands: 100. Kent: 290. Western: 380. South Wales: 1,000. Coal products division: 250. Open cast mining: no significant picketing.

In addition, the board estimates that 2,000 genuine pickets turned up at Brighton, giving a total of 9,875.

## Both sides disguise failure in Yorkshire

By Peter Davenport

Both sides in the miners' strike faced failure in the Yorkshire coalfield yesterday.

Mr Arthur Scargill's call for a mass picket at every pit, coking plant and workshop failed to materialize and the NCB's hope that the trickle back to work in the NUM president's heartland might become a flood was also disappointed.

It left both sides trying to disguise the extent of their disappointment by mocking the achievements of the other. Yesterday had been seen as the dawn of a concentrated and coordinated movement back to work by miners opposed to Mr Scargill. It was with this in mind that the mass picket of collieries and other installations was ordered.

However in Yorkshire, only 33 NUM men mustered for work at a dozen locations and, although it was the highest total of the dispute, NCB officials admitted they had hoped for a bigger increase. The figures were only five up on last week.

But the real surprise for police and the coal board was the number of pickets at pit gates.

South Yorkshire police said: "It has been a very quiet day with some of the lightest picketing we have had to deal with. We estimate there were fewer than 1,500 pickets in the entire area."

The biggest turn-out were at Yorkshire Main, near Doncaster, where 400 tried to prevent four men going to work; 250 at Kiveton Park, Sheffield, where seven miners clocked on and police found two suspect petrol bombs in a field after five broke out near an electricity substation; and 200 at Marikham Main Colliery, near Doncaster where two miners went to work.

Mr Ian Ferguson, branch secretary at the Yorkshire Main colliery and a member of the Yorkshire Executive, claimed it had been a deliberate decision of the strike committee to go against Mr Scargill's plans. "We didn't agree with his tactics. We didn't think it was necessary."

## Rebel wins injunction

A rebel miner who has defied up to 1,500 pickets won a court injunction against the Durham area of the National Union of Mineworkers yesterday.

In a rare action at Manchester High Court, Mr Paul Wilkinson, aged 28, was granted an injunction by Mr Justice Gidwell. The injunction ordered the Durham NUM not to deny Mr Wilkinson any of the rights or privileges of membership of the union. The executive committee was also restrained from taking any disciplinary action against him arising from his actions.

The NUM was also ordered not to intimidate Mr Wilkinson or use threats or force. It was

told to carry out peaceful picketing only and not beset Mr Wilkinson's place of work or his home.

● Mineworkers officials in South Wales yesterday prevented their own men from providing a safety cover at seven pits because some of them refused to pay a £3 levy to the food funds out of their daily £15 shift payment.

● A research document released by Plaid Cymru claimed that if the National Coal Board were to have its way completely and keep open only profitable mines then only two of the 28 pits in the coalfield would survive.

## Timetable of events

March 5: York NUM calls strike over closures of Cortonwood and Bulcliffe Wood collieries; 12: Half country's pits close as strike starts.

April 12: NUM Executive rejects call for national ballot; 19: NUM special conference calls for all-out miners' strike; 25: Mr Scargill rejects Mr MacGregor's offer to phase closure programme.

May 21: Informal talks about talks collapse between NCB and NUM; 23: Second round of peace talks fails; June 8: Mass rally by strikers in London; 13: Third round of peace talks breaks down; 21: Mr MacGregor sends letters to 178,000 miners stating he will

not allow NUM victory; 27: Day of action in support of strike.

July 6: Peace talks convened for nine hours. Both sides agree to meet again; 10: High Court orders NUM special conference not to vote on proposed rule change aimed at disciplining working miners; 11: NUM defies High Court order; 18: Talks between NCB and NUM collapse after 12 hours; 26: NUM rejects NCB peace plan on pit closures.

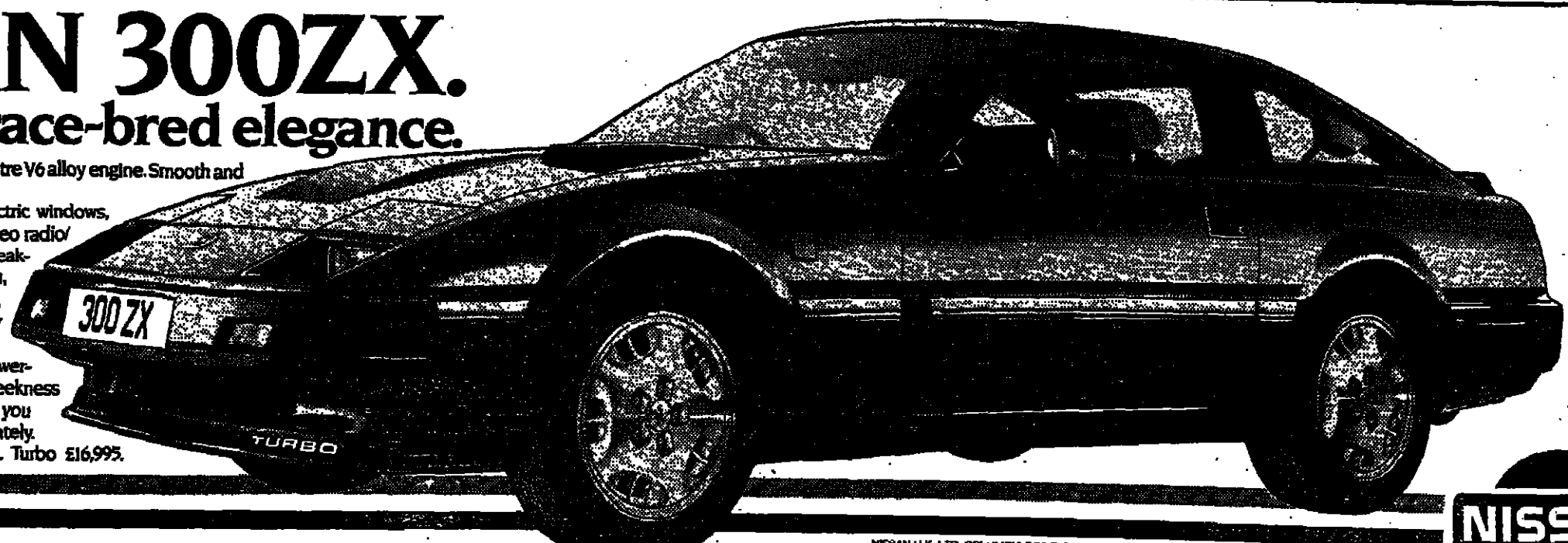
August: ACAS holds private talks with both sides; 24: Mr Stanley Orme, Labour's energy spokesman, fails to bring both sides together.

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